



Jordan School District #717
Policy Committee Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 5:30 PM
Policy Committee
Jordan Public Schools
500 Sunset Drive; Suite 3
Jordan, MN 55352

1. Review of Policy 610 Field Trips
2. Review of Policy 709 Student Transportation Safety
3. Review of Policy 709.1 Bus Students Living on Non Public Roads
4. Review of Policy 709.2 Bus Route and bus Stop Rules
5. Review of Policy 709.3 Manner of Transportation
6. Review of Policy 709.4 Bus Transportation - Cul de Sacs
7. Review of Policy 710 Extracurricular Transportation

School Board Clerk

Date

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised: 2014

610 FIELD TRIPS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for student trips and to identify the general process to be followed for review and approval of trip requests.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The general expectation of the school board is that all student trips will be well planned, conducted in an orderly manner and safe environment, and will relate directly to the objectives of the class or activity for which the trip is requested. Student trips will be categorized within three general areas:

A. Instructional Trips

Trips that take place during the school day, relate directly to a course of study, and require student participation shall fall in this category. These trips shall be subject to review and approval of the building principal and shall be financed by school district funds within the constraints of the school building budget. Fees may not be assessed against students to defray direct costs of instructional trips. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.37, Prohibited Fees)

B. Supplementary Trips

This category pertains to those trips in which students voluntarily participate and which usually take place outside the regular school day. Examples of trips in this category involve student activities, clubs, and other special interest groups. These trips are subject to review and approval of the activities director and/or the building principal. Financial contributions by students may be requested. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.36, Authorized Fees)

C. Extended Trips

1. Trips that involve one or more overnight stops fall into this category. Extended trips may be instructional or supplementary and must be requested well in advance of the planned activity. An extended trip request form must be completed and approved at each level: student, principal, superintendent, and school board. Exceptions to the approval policy may be granted or expedited to accommodate emergencies or contingencies (e.g., tournament competition).

2. The school board acknowledges and supports the efforts of booster clubs and similar organizations in providing extended trip opportunities for students.

III. REGULATIONS

- A. Rules of conduct and discipline for students and employees shall apply to all student trip activity.
- B. The school administration shall be responsible for providing more detailed procedures, including parental involvement, supervision, and such other factors deemed important and in the best interest of students.
- C. Transportation shall be furnished through a commercial carrier or school-owned vehicle.
- D. An employee may use a personal vehicle to transport staff or personal property for purposes of a field trip upon prior, written approval from administration.
- E. An employee must not use a personal vehicle to transport one or more students for purposes of a field trip.
 1. If immediate transportation of a student is required due to an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, such as the illness or injury of a child, and the transportation does not constitute regular or scheduled transportation, a personal vehicle may be used. To the extent a personal vehicle is used, the vehicle must be properly registered and insured.
 2. An employee must obtain preapproval by administration of student transportation by a personal vehicle, pursuant to Section III.E.1, if practicable. If preapproval by administration of use of a personal vehicle cannot be obtained in a reasonable time given the circumstances, an employee shall report the relevant facts and circumstances justifying the need for use of a personal vehicle to administration as soon as practicable. The relevant facts and circumstances for use of a personal vehicle shall be documented by administration.

IV. SCHOOL BOARD REVIEW

The superintendent shall at least annually report to the school board upon the utilization of trips under this policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subd. 71(a) (Definition of a School Bus)

Minn. Stat. § 169.454, Subd. 13 (Type III Vehicle Standards – Exemption)
Sonkowsky v. Board of Educ. for Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 721, 327 F.3d 675
(8th Cir. 2003)
Lee v. Pine Bluff Sch. Dist., 472 F.3d 1026 (8th Cir. 2007)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal
of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 423 (Employee – Student Relationships)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public School
Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 717
FIELD TRIP POLICY PROCEDURE

The procedures for field trips consist of two approval phases, a communication phase and guidelines applicable to field trips.

ADVANCE PLANNING AND APPROVAL FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS

Any principal, teacher, advisor or other district staff person planning a field trip under the auspices of the school district must request preliminary approval for the proposed trip before any conversation occurs with parents or students regarding the possibility of such a trip. This request and its possible subsequent approval is on a “trip-by-trip” basis, and the request must be renewed each time a trip is repeated.

1. Timing and approval authority for preliminary request:

Instructional Trips:

- Day Trip – Must be submitted to the building principal a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the date of the proposed trip.

Optional Trips:

- Overnight Field Trip – Must be submitted to the School Board through the Superintendent of Schools a minimum of 60 days in advance of the date of the proposed trip.
- Extended Field Trip: Must be submitted to the School Board through the Superintendent of Schools a minimum of 90 days in advance of the proposed date of the trip.

2. Information to be included in the preliminary request:

a) Purpose of the trip:

1. The educational/incentive-based objectives to be met by the trip shall be clearly defined, including reference to any educational standards addressed by the trip and a description of its relationship to the school’s curriculum or co-curricular objectives.
2. If the trip includes out of state or country travel, the purpose of the trip must include at a minimum one of the following objectives:
 - Δ Provides a unique, educational experience for the students.
 - Δ Provides an environment of preparation that cannot be achieved locally.
 - Δ Provides a level of competition suitable for the program.

- b) Number of students likely to participate.
 - c) Proposed destination.
 - d) Proposed dates and details of the length of the trip.
 - e) Proposed travel arrangements, including lodging and meals if relevant.
 - f) Description of proposed plan for adult supervision of the students participating and any precautions planned due to age or maturity level of students.
 - g) Proposed funding source and description of plans for addressing costs for either accompanying adults or (in the case of self-funded trips) for meeting the needs of students with less capacity to pay, through a variety of fund raising activities to include individual, student and group events.
3. Preliminary request forms and information:

The preliminary request is to be submitted to the appropriate approving authority on the form designed for that purpose. Accompanying documents needed to meet the above requirements may be attached. In the case of instructional day trips and optional overnight trips, the approving authority will review the request and respond within seven (7) working days of receipt of the request. In the case of optional extended field trips, the Board will review the request and respond in a timely manner.

COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Upon receipt of preliminary approval for the trip, the staff person coordinating the trip can communicate the plans for the trip to the students and parents for whom the trip is intended.

- 1. Information provided to parents and students should include a copy of the relevant information included in the preliminary approval request, especially related to dates, educational objectives served, and details of both cost per student and expected funding source.
- 2. If the trip is to be paid for by the participants and there is any additional cost to them associated with sharing expenses for adult chaperones, that information should be explicitly provided in the packet that goes to the parents.
- 3. Students and parents who may otherwise have difficulty obtaining funds to participate should be communicated with separately about any special options available to them.

FINAL APPROVAL PROCESS

When final details are completed, the staff person coordinating the trip must submit

information requested in #2 of the final approval process to the original approving authority for final approval.

1. Timing of final approval:
 - a) Day trip – Request for final approval to the building principal not less than ten (10) working days in advance of the proposed date for the trip.
 - b) Overnight field trip – Request for final approval to the Superintendent of Schools not less than ten (10) working days in advance of the proposed date of the trip.
 - c) Extended field trip – Request for final approval to the Superintendent of Schools not less than twenty (20) working days in advance of the proposed date of the trip.
2. The request for final approval should include:
 - a) Detailed information about name and number of participants.
 - b) Completed parental consent forms for each student.
 - c) A complete listing of any adults accompanying the students on the trip.
 - d) A detailed budget outlining costs and sources of revenue.
 - e) Final details as to travel, meal, and lodging arrangements.
 - f) Final detailed air and/or ground transportation plan.
3. The approving authority will have five (5) working days from the receipt of the request for final approval to act on the request and notify the staff person coordinating the trip.

**OVERALL GUIDELINES TO BE CONSIDERED APPLICABLE TO FIELD TRIPS
SPONSORED OR SANCTIONED BY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 717**

District 717 will not be responsible for or endorse any trips organized or conducted by district staff persons under the auspices of non-school agencies or that have not been approved in advance through the process described herein.

1. Signed and individual parental consent forms, release of liability waivers are required for out-of-district travel.
 - a) Special and specific release of liability waivers are required and must be drafted by the District's legal counsel for ALL out-of-country field trips with the only exception being trips to Canada.
 - b) For out-of-country field trips, with the exception of travel to Canada, the trip organizer will work with the superintendent and the District's chosen Travel

Company to insure that the District is added to the travel company's liability insurance as an "additional insured party." In the event that the travel company does not allow this practice, the District will purchase specific liability travel insurance with all costs associated with this expense to be borne by the participants of the trip.

2. Appropriate adult supervision must be provided for any district-sponsored travel.
 - a) The ratio of adult chaperones to student participants should reflect the destination and length of the trip as well as the age and maturity level of the students involved.
 - b) The number of adult chaperones to be included, as well as the details of how their expenses are to be funded, must be part of the documents included in the request for trip approval.
 - c) During travel, whether in district vehicles or approved public transportation, the ratio of adult chaperones to student participants in each vehicle must reflect the age and maturity level of the student involved.
 - d) Chaperones of overnight and extended field trips must have a current background check on file in the District Office. Chaperones incur the cost of the background check.
3. Frequency of field trip related travel for staff and students – While it is true that success for students can be enhanced by appropriate use of field trip opportunities, it is also true that regular and consistent presence in the classroom (on the part of both students and staff) is an even greater contributor to overall success. With that in mind, there are some restrictions placed on frequency of participation in district-sponsored field trip related absence from the classroom.
 - Every effort will be made to schedule travel to occur during non-student contact days.
4. Homestays are not permitted unless arranged by a reputable exchange program.
5. Risk-based activities will not be allowed without parental or guardian release of liability waiver and acknowledgement of risk.
6. No employee or spouse of an employee affiliated with a district-sponsored field trip (extended or otherwise) will receive or accept any direct personal payment, from any organization or agency outside the school district for their services, time, or participation in the field trip.
7. Funding
 - a) Except in cases where trips take place during the school day, relate directly to a course of study, and require student participation, district or school-funded, field

trips will be deemed “optional” in nature and the funding will be collected and disbursed through the appropriate student activity account.

- b) Each optional trip will be funded according to the General Statement of Policy section II of this policy. No financial commitments will be made by coordinating staff persons for travel, hotel, meal or other accommodations for such trips until the approving authority is fully satisfied that the necessary funds have been collected for that purpose.
- c) Any proposed stipends, expense payments, or other costs provided to accompanying staff members (beyond their normal salary and benefits) in connection with a proposed field trip must be fully disclosed in advance to both the approving authority and to the provider of the funding for the trip, be that parents, students, or an outside agency.
- d) All such costs to accompanying staff, including any cost associated with funding a replacement for them in their classroom during their absence, will be deemed to be part of the cost of the trip and the funding source must be accounted for in advance of final approval.
- e) ISD 717 does not and will not assume liability for reimbursement of staff persons, their family members, or any other party for any costs associated with having purchased travel arrangements or accommodations for a field trip if those purchases were made prior to having received district approval for the trip or if those purchases were made through a vendor not pre-approved by the district finance department.
- f) Any additional and necessary liability insurance costs associated with out-of-country field trips, with the exception of trips to Canada, will be borne by the participants as referenced in the “Overall Guidelines To Be Considered Applicable To Field Trips Sponsored or Sanctioned by Independent School District 717” Section 1b.



Field Trip Request Form STAFF ONLY – Section 1

This is a Day Field Trip Overnight Field Trip Extended Field Trip
Must be submitted 30 days in advance Must be submitted 60 days in advance Must be submitted 90 days in advance

- Procedures:**
- Check the main office to confirm date of trip.
 - Complete this form, include schedule and/or copy of brochure, and wait for approval.
 - Arrange appropriate transportation.
 - Arrange parent chaperones (if necessary) and notify them of trip information.
 - E-mail appropriate support staff, SPED teachers, specialists, kitchen staff, and attendance secretary three days in advance.

Name of School Group: _____ Destination: _____
Primary Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____
Number of Adults: _____ Number of Students: _____
Date of Trip: _____ Amount Charged to Students: _____
Depart from School: _____ Estimated Time of Return: _____
Transportation: Benjamin Bus Service Number of Buses: _____
Trip Supervisor: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Learning Objectives/Educational Purpose:

Outcomes expected students will gain from this field trip:

Educational alternatives with similar outcomes for students who do not attend:

Review/Evaluation upon returning to school:

Trip Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved Denied

Principal Signature: _____

Comments:



Complete for Overnight and Extended field trips only -- **Section 2**

FIELD TRIP REQUEST – STAFF ONLY

If associated with a class, describe plans to ensure quality instruction for members of class not participating in trip (attach additional pages if necessary).

Describe plans to inform and involve parents and secure their approval (attach copies of information and permission documents): _____

Describe steps taken to inform and assist disadvantaged students in participating in the program:

continued on next page



Complete for Overnight and Extended field trips only -- **Section 2 (page 2)**

FIELD TRIP REQUEST – STAFF ONLY

Staff Member in Charge: _____

Destination: _____

List all expected expenditures (substitute teachers, salary expenditures, stipends, food, transportation, admissions, lodging, etc.): _____

If fund raising activities are part of financing, briefly describe fund raising plans and attach a copy of the fund raising request: _____

Describe how funds will be collected and handled: _____

Adults accompanying students on trip (attach additional pages if necessary):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Status</u> (teacher, parent, etc.)
_____	_____
_____	_____

Approval:

Principal (All field trips) _____
Date Approved

Superintendent or Designee (Overnight and Extended field trips only) _____
Date Approved

School Board (Extended field trips only) _____
Date Approved



Section 3

FINAL FIELD TRIP DATA – STAFF ONLY

Submitted to Principal

Staff Member in Charge: _____

Trip Date(s): _____ School: _____

Destination: _____

Attach all required documentation for final approval

- Detailed information identifying participants (students and adults).
(must include name, address, phone number, ratio of adults to students, and other pertinent information)
- Completed and signed parental consent forms for each student
- Detailed field trip budget outlining costs and sources of revenue
- Final details of travel, meal, and lodging arrangements.
- Final detailed ground transportation plan pre-approved by district transportation department.
- Adult chaperone list and ratio.

Approval:

Principal (all field trips)

Date Approved



Complete for Overnight and Extended field trips only -- **Section 4**

FIELD TRIP FINANCIAL SUMMARY – STAFF ONLY

This is an

Overnight Field Trip

Must be submitted
within 30 days of
trip completion

Extended Field trip

Must be submitted
within 30 days of
trip completion

Staff member in Charge: _____

Trip Date(s): _____ School: _____

Destination: _____

Submit the following with this form within 30 days of the completion of the trip to the building principal.

- Written report detailing the events and outcomes of the trip and an assessment of whether the hoped-for educational objectives were met.
- Detailed and complete summary of all revenues and expenses associated with the trip.

Signature of trip coordinator (ISD 717 staff)

Date

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through (6) with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. Students in grades K through 6 who enroll in a school after the second week of school, are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety

training or receive bus safety instructional materials within four weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes and other students in grades 9 and 10 must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district may provide student safety education for bicycling and pedestrian safety for students in grades K through 4.
9. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
10. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. The nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 6 have received the appropriate training.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.
 1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules. The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school

district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.

2. Rules at the Bus Stop

- a. Get to your bus stop five minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
- b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
- c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- d. Use appropriate language.
- e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
- f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

3. Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.

- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the school bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student’s ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (K-4)

- 1st offense – warning, letter to parents
- 2nd offense – parent conference either in person or phone
- 3rd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus
- Further offenses – individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (5-12)

- 1st offense – warning
- 2nd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus
- 3rd offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus
- 4th offense – 20 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent
- 5th offense – suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

Note: When any student goes 60 transportation days without a report, the student’s consequences may start over at the first offense. The principals always have the discretion to change the above amounts if they deem it appropriate.

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student’s conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school

bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that causes an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property will be provided by the school district to the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within two weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

A. Parent and Guardian Notification

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the

principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;

2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop five minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a vehicle with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer persons used as a school bus, but not outwardly equipped or identified as a school bus as set forth in set forth in Section VII.B., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in Section VII.C., below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver "evaluation certification" form for each school district driver as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. Bus drivers must park and load school buses at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer's rated seating capacity of 10 or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of 10 or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
4. A type III vehicle cannot be older than 12 years old unless excepted by state and federal law.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words "school bus" in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A "type III vehicle" must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.
10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:
 - a. Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket, and must be located in the driver's compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and

passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.

- b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit. A minimum of a ten-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver's compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.
 - c. A type III vehicle must contain at least three red reflectorized triangle road warning devices. Liquid burning "pot type" flares are not allowed.
 - d. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.
11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.
12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.

C. Type A-I "Activity" Buses Driven by Employees with Class D Driver's License

1. The holder of a Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus under the following conditions:
- a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the eight-light system.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical

examination as required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 2.

- e. The operator has a valid driver's license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subd. 2a(b).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's "Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses," in addition to the training required in Section VI., above.
- 2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
 - 3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
 - 4. The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call "911" or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III "Crash & Emergency Preparedness" of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).
- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within one month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency Health Information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition. The information shall state:
 - 1. the student's name and address;
 - 2. the nature of the student's disabilities;

3. emergency health care information; and
4. the names and telephone numbers of the student's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district's record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver's Register or the Department of Public Safety. The school transportation safety director also shall confirm annually to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers,

representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instructor or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
Minn. Stat. § 169.01, Subd.6(5) (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2a, (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus Driver)
Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
Suspensions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

<p>Notification to Employer Of Moving Violation</p> <p>Commercial Drivers License 49 CFR 383.31 Minnesota Statute 171.168</p>		
<p>Upon conviction of any moving violation by any state or local jurisdiction the holder of a Minnesota Commercial Driver License must notify their employer(s) in writing within 30 days of such conviction.</p>		
<p>DRIVER NAME (First Name, MI, Last Name)</p>	<p>STATE</p>	
<p>COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER</p>	<p>DID THE VIOLATION HAPPEN IN A CMV? G YES G NO</p>	
<p>DATE OF CONVICTION</p>		
<p>LOCATION OF OFFENSE</p>	<p>CITY</p>	<p>STATE</p>
<p>DETAILS ABOUT THE OFFENSE, INCLUDING ANY RESULTING SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR CANCELLATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES:</p>		<p>DATE</p>
<p>SIGNATURE OF DRIVER</p>		

<p>Notification to Employer Of Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation or Disqualification</p> <p>Commercial Drivers License 49 CFR 383.33 Minnesota Statute 171.169</p>		
<p>The holder of a Minnesota Commercial Driver License shall notify their employer(s) in writing of any suspension, revocation, cancellation, loss of privilege or disqualification, before the end of the business day following the day the driver (employee) received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, loss of privilege or disqualification.</p>		
DRIVER NAME (First Name, MI, Last Name)	STATE	
COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER	DID THE VIOLATION HAPPEN IN A CMV? G YES G NO	
DATE OF CONVICTION		
LOCATION OF OFFENSE	CITY	STATE
DETAILS ABOUT THE OFFENSE, INCLUDING ANY RESULTING SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR CANCELLATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES:	DATE	
SIGNATURE OF DRIVER		

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2014

709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

[Note: School districts are required by statute to have a policy addressing these issues.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus

training. Students in grades K through 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school, are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within 4 weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district may provide student safety education for bicycling and pedestrian safety for students in grades K through 5.
9. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
10. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation

safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules. The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.
2. Rules at the Bus Stop
 - a. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
 - b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
 - c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
 - d. Use appropriate language.
 - e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
 - f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
 - g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
 - h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
 - i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
 - j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
3. Rules on the Bus
 - a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
 - b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
 - c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
 - d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
 - e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.

- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the school bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student’s ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (K-6)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 3 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

Further offenses – individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (7-12)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 20 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

5th offense – suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

Note: When any student goes 60 transportation days without a report, the student’s consequences may start over at the first offense.

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student’s conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension

or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are **reasonably believed to** causes an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property ~~will~~ **shall** be provided by the school district to **local law enforcement** **and** the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within 2 weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

A. Parent and Guardian Notification

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver’s license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in Sections VII.B. and VII.C., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a “type A-I” school bus as set forth in Section VII.D., below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver’s license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within 30 days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a “serious traffic violation” means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
 1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of 15 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;

5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within 30 days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.
- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction and who loses the right to operate a commercial vehicle for any period or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.
- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in Section VII.C.1.g. (i.e., driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within 10 days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For

purposes of this section, “annually” means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver “evaluation certification” form for each school district driver as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

[Note: The Model School Bus Driver Training Manual is available online through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Patrol web page.]

2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in Section VII.C.1.b., below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

[Note: The school district may use alternative assessments rather than those set forth in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual for bus driver training competencies with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Safety. A driver also may receive at least 8 hours of school bus in-service training in any year as an alternative to being assessed for bus driver competencies after the initial year of being assessed for bus driver competencies.]

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

[Note: The Model School Bus Driver Training Manual is available online through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Patrol web page.]

2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.

[Note: A school district is not required to comply with Section VII.A.5. if the school board determines that alternative locations block traffic, impair student safety, or are not cost effective.]

6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion **or a part of traffic**. For purposes of this paragraph, “school bus” has the meaning given in Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subd. 71. In addition, “school bus” also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. “Cellular phone” means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer’s rated seating capacity of 10 or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of 10

or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.

2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
4. A type III vehicle cannot be older than 12 years old unless excepted by state and federal law.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words “school bus” in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A “type III vehicle” must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.
10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:
 - a. Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket, and must be located in the driver’s compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.
 - b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit. A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver’s compartment

and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.

- c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.
11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.
12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.
13. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.
 - b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:
 - (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
 - (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
 - (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
 - (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;

- (5) handling emergency situations;
- (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
- (7) performance of pretrip vehicle inspections;
- (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location;
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in “park” during loading and unloading;
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and
- (9) compliance with paragraph V.F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within 10 days of the date of conviction.

c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8, or Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 for school district employees; Minn. Stat. § 144.057 or Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C for day care employees; or Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.

d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 2.

- e. The operator's employer requires preemployment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer's policy under Minn. Stat. § 181.951, Subds. 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator's employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.
 - f. The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 5.
 - g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minn. Stat. § 609.02, of violating Minn. Stat. § 169A.25, § 169A.26, § 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or § 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver's license is revoked under Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating or whose driver's license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 5 years from the date of conviction.
 - h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd.1(c), (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
 - i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minn. Stat. § 609.02, of a moving offense in violation of Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 within 3 years of the first of 3 other moving offenses is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 1 year from the date of the last conviction.
 - j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minn. Stat. § 123B.90, Subd. 2 (See Section II.B., above).
 - k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.
2. The type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minn. Stat. § 169.451.

3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt from paragraphs VII.C.1.d. (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e. (drug testing), above.

D. Type A-I “Activity” Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver’s License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class D driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver’s license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subd. 2a(h) - 2a(j).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s “Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses,” if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Section VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.

4. The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call "911" or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III "Crash & Emergency Preparedness" of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).

[Note: The Model School Bus Driver Training Manual is available online through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Patrol web page.]

- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within 1 month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency Health Information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition. The information shall state:
 1. the student's name and address;
 2. the nature of the student's disabilities;
 3. emergency health care information; and
 4. the names and telephone numbers of the student's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.

- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district's record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required by Minn. Stat. § 171.321, Subd. 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instructor or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)

Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Driver Training Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notification of Conviction for Violation by a Commercial Driver)
Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notification of Suspension of License of Commercial Driver)
Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus Driver)
Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)
Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)
Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)
Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)
49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver's License Suspensions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

<p>Notification to Employer Of Moving Violation</p> <p>Commercial Drivers License 49 CFR 383.31 Minnesota Statute 171.168</p>		
<p>Upon conviction of any moving violation by any state or local jurisdiction the holder of a Minnesota Commercial Driver License must notify their employer(s) in writing within 30 days of such conviction.</p>		
<p>DRIVER NAME (First Name, MI, Last Name)</p>	<p>STATE</p>	
<p>COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER</p>	<p>DID THE VIOLATION HAPPEN IN A CMV? G YES G NO</p>	
<p>DATE OF CONVICTION</p>		
<p>LOCATION OF OFFENSE</p>	<p>CITY</p>	<p>STATE</p>
<p>DETAILS ABOUT THE OFFENSE, INCLUDING ANY RESULTING SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR CANCELLATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES:</p>		<p>DATE</p>
<p>SIGNATURE OF DRIVER</p>		

Notification to Employer Of Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation or Disqualification	
Commercial Drivers License 49 CFR 383.33 Minnesota Statute 171.169	
The holder of a Minnesota Commercial Driver License shall notify their employer(s) in writing of any suspension, revocation, cancellation, loss of privilege or disqualification, before the end of the business day following the day the driver (employee) received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, loss of privilege or disqualification.	
DRIVER NAME (First Name, MI, Last Name)	STATE
COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER	DID THE VIOLATION HAPPEN IN A CMV? G YES G NO
DATE OF CONVICTION	
LOCATION OF OFFENSE	CITY STATE
DETAILS ABOUT THE OFFENSE, INCLUDING ANY RESULTING SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR CANCELLATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES:	DATE
SIGNATURE OF DRIVER	

**Type III School Bus Driver
Notification to Employer
Of
Violation**

Alcohol Related Offense (Minnesota Statute 169A)
Disqualifying Offense (Minnesota Statute 171.3215 sub 1)
Moving Violation (Minnesota Statute 169)

Minnesota Statute 171.02 sub 2b

An operator who sustains a conviction as described in 171.02 sub 2b paragraph (h), (i) or (j) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus shall report the conviction to the employer(s) in writing within 10 days of such conviction.

DRIVER NAME (First Name, MI, Last Name)		STATE
DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER	DID THE VIOLATION HAPPEN IN A CMV? G YES G NO	
DATE OF CONVICTION		
LOCATION OF OFFENSE	CITY	STATE
DETAILS ABOUT THE OFFENSE, INCLUDING ANY RESULTING SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR CANCELLATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGES:		DATE
SIGNATURE OF DRIVER		

This is the only form approved by the Minnesota State Patrol.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 196
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools
Educating our students to reach their full potential

Series Number 707.12AR Adopted April 1989 Revised May 2012

Title Transportation of Students by Employees in a Type III (Car or Van) Vehicle

1. **Scheduled Transportation** – Employees must be approved to transport students in a district-owned, contracted (rented), or employee-owned Type III vehicle (car or 10-passenger or fewer van) for scheduled activities (such as cocurricular activities and field trips).
 - 1.1 All employees who transport students in a Type III vehicle must complete annual training and certification with the Transportation Department to comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statute 171.02 subd. 2b, Exception for type III school bus drivers.
 - 1.2 Employees hired for the sole purpose of transporting k-12 students in a Type III vehicle must also comply with physical examination and drug testing requirements.
 - 1.3 All employees transporting students in a Type III vehicle must carry an emergency kit containing a fire extinguisher, first aid kit, bodily fluids clean-up kit, flashlight and emergency kit sign in the vehicle at all times. If the vehicle was not previously equipped with an emergency kit, one may be picked up from the employee’s school office and placed in the trunk or back seat of the vehicle.
 - 1.4 All Type III vehicles used to transport students must be inspected annually by the Minnesota highway inspector.
 - 1.5 Employees using their own Type III vehicle to transport students must carry liability insurance on their vehicle.
2. **Unscheduled Transportation** – Employees exempt from the Type III rules shown above may be approved to transport students in the employee’s vehicle (car or van) for **unscheduled** activities (such as an administrator, teacher or nurse taking a child home from school who is ill or who missed the school bus) only if they meet the following requirements:
 - 2.1 Possess a valid Minnesota driver's license, and
 - 2.2 Carry liability insurance on their vehicle.

References: - Minnesota Statute 171.02 subd. 2b, Exception for type III school bus drivers
- Minnesota Statute 169.011, subd.7a, Definitions

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

709.1 BUS STUDENTS LIVING ON NON-PUBLIC ROADS

It shall be the policy of the Jordan School District to not send busses on roads that are not official county, town, state, or township roads. Routes established prior to January, 1997 are grandfathered in.

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

709.2 BUS ROUTE AND BUS STOP RULES

1. It will be the responsibility of the superintendent, working with the transportation provider, to establish town and rural routes and stops.
2. In setting town stops consideration will be given to distances between stops, ages of children, and safety conditions. Safety conditions to be re-evaluated within the first month of the school year and after substantial snows have created piles of snow at stops.
3. Areas of town transportation (as of Sept. 1997)
The district transports public school town students living west of Hwy. 169, in the Rustic road area, the Chad Circle/Stuart Drive area and parochial in the areas near the high school and elementary. Students living in the high school/elementary area will be expected to walk to the appropriate public school to be transported to the non-public school.

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

709.3 MANNER OF TRANSPORTATION

The scheduling of routes, establishment of the location of bus stops, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of students, and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the school board.

The superintendent will develop administrative rules for the establishment of routes and stops.

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

709.4 BUS TRANSPORTATION—CUL DE SACS

It shall be the policy of the school district to not pick up students living on public cul de sacs unless these cul de sacs are more than one-half mile in length. Exceptions may be made when hazardous situations are present, as determined by the school district.

Regardless of the length of cul de sacs there must be adequate turn around areas provided for busses before the district will require the bus provider to enter them.

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

710 EXTRACURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to make clear to students, parents, and staff the school district's policy regarding extracurricular transportation.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The determination as to whether to provide transportation for students, spectators, or participants to and from extracurricular activities shall be made solely by the school district administration. This determination shall include, but is not limited to, the decision to provide transportation, the persons to be transported, the type or method to be utilized, all transportation scheduling and coordination, and any other transportation arrangements or decisions. Employees who are involved in extracurricular activities shall be advised by the administration as to the transportation arrangements made, if any.

III. ARRANGEMENT OF EXTRACURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION

School district employees shall not undertake independent arrangement, scheduling, or coordination of transportation for extracurricular activities unless specifically directed or approved by the school district administration. School district employees will notify a building administrator of all transportation arrangements made. If the school district makes no arrangements for extracurricular transportation, students who wish to participate are responsible for arranging for or providing their own transportation.

IV. EMPLOYEE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

In the event of an emergency or other unforeseeable circumstances, employees are authorized to make appropriate transportation arrangements for students as necessary. Employees will transport students in on-emergency circumstances only when such extracurricular transportation is approved by the administration. If any transportation arrangements are made by employees pursuant to this section, the relevant facts and circumstances shall be reported to the administration. All vehicles used to transport students shall be properly registered and insured.

V. FEES

In its discretion, the school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities conducted at locations other than school, where attendance is optional.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 2, Transportation

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. ~~2007~~ 2012

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III. ARRANGEMENT OF EXTRACURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION

School district employees shall not undertake independent arrangement, scheduling, or coordination of transportation for extracurricular activities unless specifically directed or approved by the school district administration. All transportation arrangements made by a school district employee must be approved by a building administrator. If the school district makes no arrangements for extracurricular transportation, students who wish to participate are responsible for arranging for or providing their own transportation.

IV. NO EMPLOYEE TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS WITH PERSONAL VEHICLES

An employee must not use a personal vehicle to transport one or more students except as provided herein. However, employees may make appropriate transportation arrangements for students as necessary in an emergency or other unforeseeable circumstance.

In a nonemergency situation, an employee must get prior, written approval from the administration before transporting a student in a personal vehicle. If a school vehicle is available, the employee will use the school vehicle. The administration has the sole discretion to make a final determination as to the appropriate use of a personal vehicle to transport one or more students.

If any emergency transportation arrangements are made by employees pursuant to this section, the relevant facts and circumstances shall be reported to the administration as soon thereafter as practicable.

All vehicles used to transport students shall be properly registered and insured.

[Note: This policy provides that employees may use a personal vehicle to transport students in an emergency or other unforeseeable circumstance. An “emergency or other unforeseeable circumstance” does not include situations where regular transportation is available or scheduled.]

For example, if a scheduled extracurricular event occurs outside of the school district and the school district transports a team or group of students to and from the event, an employee would be prohibited by law from using a personal vehicle to transport some students to the event. In contrast, if a student attending this same event became ill or injured and required immediate transportation home or to a health care facility, the exigent need to transport one student would not constitute regular or scheduled transportation. An employee would have authority to transport the student in a personal vehicle under these circumstances, if using a vehicle that is properly registered and insured. The expectation of the school district is that the employee would immediately contact administration about these circumstances to ensure oversight of the employee’s use of this exception.

Nonregular and nonscheduled transportation also would include situations where some notice may be provided of the need for transportation to a nonscheduled event for which transportation generally is not provided by the school district. For example, a group of students may participate in a scheduled debate competition for which regular school district transportation is provided. Two students advance to a regional competition the following day. Transportation would not have been scheduled to the regional competition as the students’ advancement was not predicted. These circumstances may justify an employee’s use of a personal vehicle to transport the two students to the regional competition, if the vehicle is properly registered and insured. Because the employee has sufficient time to contact an administrator, advance written permission by an administrator would be expected for the purpose of overseeing that the reasons for an employee using a personal vehicle comply with the requirements of the law.]

V. FEES

In its discretion, the school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities conducted at locations other than school, where attendance is optional.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subd. 71(a) (Definition of a School Bus)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454, Subd. 13 (Type III Vehicle Standards – Exemption)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 2, Transportation