

3.400 Student Transportation Services

Policy

Original Adoption: 12/04/06

Effective Date: 11/29/11

Revision Dates: 11/29/11

I. PURPOSE

To ensure that eligible Memphis City Schools (MCS) students receive cost effective educational transportation privileges that promote student learning, operational safety, and parent confidence while en route to and from schools and education-related activities.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all eligible MCS students and to all MCS employees administering and/or coordinating student transportation services.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

The Board supports educational transportation privileges that are consistent with state and federal guidelines, directly support student learning, and are critical to meeting the district's educational objectives. Student transportation services directly support Memphis City Schools' educational goals by limiting interruption of instructional time, especially for students who attend classes on multiple campuses; providing a safe means of conveyance to and from school for students who encounter major hazards or safety problems as they travel to and from schools; managing the effects on students of extended distances from assigned schools; and instilling confidence in parents. The Board also supports transportation for children with special needs, in accordance with their Individual Education Plans and for students who are eligible, under federal or state law, to attend schools outside of their neighborhoods.

Educational transportation services shall be implemented in accordance with the MCS Student Transportation Services Plan (the Plan). The Plan shall include a provision prohibiting permitting a student to exit at a point other than the student's regular bus stop. This Plan shall be prepared annually and submitted to the Board for approval.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The Superintendent is responsible for presenting the Student Transportation Plan to the Board of Commissioners annually
- B. The Office of Student Transportation is responsible for developing and implementing the Student Transportation Services Plan.
- C. The Superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed.

Legal References:

1. TCA 49-6-2101-2118

Cross References:

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Administrative Rules and Regulations

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The Student Transportation Services Plan shall consider in an equitable way the following:

- current educational transportation services contracts;
- budget;
- planned bus routes developed to ensure time in routes comply with applicable statutes;
- standard walk to school zones;
- safety issues and hazard zone walk to school variances;
- original district walk to school zone criteria;
- prior year bus route walk to school exceptions;
- additional bus stop variances;
- transportation reports for Exceptional Students (SPED), No Child Left Behind (NCLB), Memphis Area Transportation Agency (MATA), English as a Second Language (ESL), Vocational Technology (VOTEC), Creative Learning in a Unique Environment (CLUE), and Supplemental Learning Programs (SLP);
- contractor lists for approved Charter Bus Companies, Travel Agencies and Fleet Rentals;
- MCS Fleet Management program;
- MCS driver certifications list;
- transportation Multi-Hazard contact list; and
- revisions/updates to the MCS Student Transportation Services Manual.

Individuals who have suggestions, questions, or concerns regarding student transportation may contact the Office of Student Transportation at <http://www.mcsk12.net/Transportation/questions.asp> or 901-416-5540.