

The superintendent or designee shall develop school bus routes in accordance with state law and regulations. All bus routes will be kept on file in the superintendent's office, and all changes will be filed within 10 days after such change becomes effective.

Students will be assigned to a bus that passes within one mile of the student's residence. To the extent practicable and economically feasible, ride time should be less than 45 minutes one-way.

Parents will be informed of students' scheduled school bus arrival times. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that a student is present at a bus stop prior to the scheduled arrival time.

A. TRANSPORTATION TO LOCATIONS OTHER THAN HOME

Upon request, the superintendent or designee may, but is not required to, assign a student to a bus to transport the student to and/or from a location other than home if the following conditions are met.

1. The student's parent or guardian submits a written, signed request that states the specific location other than home to which the student is to be transported and acknowledges that the parent or guardian and not the school system is responsible for the student's safety once the child has departed from the bus.
2. The request for such transportation does not require a bus to deviate in any significant way from an established route.
3. There is capacity on the bus if the request would necessitate the student's riding a different bus from the regularly assigned bus.
4. The student's residence and requested bus stop are within the zone eligible for transportation service.
5. The request for such transportation does not cause the school system to incur any additional cost.
6. The proposed bus stop meets safety standards established by law, the board, the superintendent or the principal.

Any changes in bus stops must be approved by the superintendent or designee.

B. BUS ROUTES IN HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

School buses will not be allowed to operate if there is a serious threat to the safety of students or drivers. The superintendent may develop a more limited bus route for hazardous weather conditions in order to operate only on roads that are safe. To the extent possible, parents will be notified in advance of the bus route that will be used in hazardous conditions. The hazardous conditions bus route will be on file in the superintendent's office.

A student who is identified as having special needs following procedures in the North Carolina *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities* will be provided with transportation services as required by law.

Legal References: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.*; G.S. 115C-240(d), -246; 16 N.C.A.C. 6B .0111; *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*, State Board of Education Policy EXCP-000; State Board of Education Policies TRAN-000, -002

Adopted: May 14, 1998 to become effective July 1, 1998

Updated: April 8, 1999, May 10, 2012, September 14, 2017, May 10, 2018, October 14, 2021