

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 35 (LANGLEY)

POLICY MANUAL

Policy No. 3850

SUBJECT: CONVEYANCE OF STUDENTS

Date 09 11 03 17 11 21

Revised 90 10 01 73 12 03

The Board of Education will provide conveyance of students to and from their catchment school on a cost-efficient, district-operated transportation system.

The District transportation system may also be used for the conveyance of students to and from school sponsored curricular and co-curricular activities within or outside the boundaries of the School District.

1. Registration

- 1.1 Students must be registered with the district's Transportation Department to receive service. Students must re-register for each school year they require service. Registration forms are available from the Transportation Department and on the District's website at www.sd35.bc.ca/district/maintenance. There is also an online registration process which is accessible on the School District website.
- 1.2 Registration forms must be received by the District's Transportation Department by June 1st of the prior school year. Late applications will be processed in the fall.
- 1.3 Preliminary route schedules will be published by August 1st and finalized when the routes are completed each year.

2. Ridership Privileges for Registered Students

Transportation will be available for Kindergarten to Grade 12 Langley resident students to and from school, enrolled in an educational program with the Langley School District, based on the following considerations:

2.1 First priority will be granted to the following students:

- 2.1.1 Grade K-7 students and middle school students (grades 6 – 8) who live 3.2 km or more away, by travelled road or walkway, from the nearest school in the student's catchment area.
- 2.1.2 Grade 8-12 students who live 4.8 km or more away, by travelled road or walkway, from the nearest school in the student's catchment area.
- 2.1.3 Physically disabled students who, due to distance and/or severity of their disability, are unable to walk or take public transit.
- 2.1.4 Students with special needs who are placed in a District program other than the student's home school.

2.2 Second priority will be granted to siblings of students as set out in 2.1.3 and 2.1.4, provided that the pick-up and final destination are the same.

2.3 Third priority will be to other riders. Pick-up for other riders will be along bus routes already established to pick-up first priority riders and only where there is capacity available on the bus. Priority of other riders will be as follows:

- 2.3.1 First priority will be for those students who live the furthest away from their catchment school.
- 2.3.2 Second priority will be to those whose siblings have been granted ridership privileges, provided that the pick-up and final destination are the same.
- 2.3.3. Third priority will be granted to the youngest student if all other factors are equal.

- 2.4 If the School District provided transportation to a student in one school year, transportation is not guaranteed to that student in the following school year. At the start of each school year, new students who are considered first priority may take precedence over those in second and third priorities if the bus is at capacity.
- 2.5 Mid-year applications will only be accepted if the bus has the capacity to provide the service.
- 2.6 School District transportation services will not be provided for students attending Choice programs (as per Administrative Procedure No. 5084) or cross-boundary schools (as per Administrative Procedure No. 7008).

3. Capacity

- 3.1 The District Transportation Department follows the *Motor Vehicle Act Regulations* in British Columbia. The *Act* references seating capacity:

“11.13(1) For purposes of subsections (3) and (4), a passenger on a bus that is a school bus is comfortably and securely seated

- (a) on a bench seat not equipped with seat belt assemblies if neither hip, nor any hip of another person on the seat, extends beyond the edge of the seat cushion,*
- (b) on a bench seat equipped with seat belt assemblies if he may make exclusive use of the seat belt assemblies on the seat, or*
- (c) on a seat designed for one person if he is the only person on it.”*

4. Routes

- 4.1. Routes will be established by the Transportation Department to collect students in the most effective and efficient way possible, keeping safety in mind.
- 4.2. Every effort will be made to establish routes which will bring bus service to all first priority students who are registered for school bus transportation.
- 4.3. Where there will be fewer than seven (7) priority one students on a given route, school bus transportation may not be provided. Those students may be accommodated through a transportation allowance.

5. Transportation Allowance

- 5.1. A transportation allowance will only be considered for first priority students who have registered to use school bus services and who cannot avail of those services due to the lack of a School District bus route in their area.
- 5.2. The transportation allowance will be determined by the School District.

Legal Reference: Sections 85 of the *School Act*.

(Last Revision: November 21, 2017)