
8.10 TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that a safe, reliable, and equitable transportation system supports access to education for many students. While the *School Act* does not require school districts to provide transportation services, the Board strives to offer transportation where feasible, considering safety, efficiency, and fiscal responsibility.

Services must comply with the *School Act*, the *Motor Vehicle Act* and Motor Vehicle Act Regulations, and Ministry of Education and Childcare guidelines, while reflecting the Board's commitment to student safety, environmental stewardship, and equity.

Guidelines

1. Eligibility
 - 1.1. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 are eligible for transportation if they live more than 4.0 km from their catchment school.
 - 1.2. Students in Grades 4–12 are eligible if they live more than 4.8 km from their catchment school.
 - 1.3. Exceptions may be made for:
 - 1.3.1. Hazardous walking conditions.
 - 1.3.2. Students with disabilities and diverse abilities requiring transportation as part of their Individual Education Plan (IEP).
 - 1.3.3. First Nation students living on reserve, in accordance with the BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA).
2. Student Conduct
 - 2.1. Students are expected to follow the District Code of Conduct and the Code of Conduct for Bus Students while being transported.
 - 2.2. Unsafe or disrespectful behavior may result in suspension of bus privileges.
3. Equity & Inclusion
 - 3.1. Transportation services will be accessible to students with disabilities and diverse abilities and be responsive to the needs of Indigenous and rural/remote communities.
4. Courtesy Riders
 - 4.1. Courtesy riders include students attending out-of-catchment schools and stops other than home address.
 - 4.2. Seats may be offered on existing routes if space is available.
5. Environmental Commitment
 - 5.1. The Board will support route optimization, idle free practices, and explore low emission where feasible.

6. Review & Accountability

6.1. Reports on transportation services will be provided to the Board each year.

6.2. Parents/guardians may appeal eligibility decisions in accordance with the Board Appeal Bylaw.