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## TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The safety and welfare of pupils shall be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. The board directs the chief school administrator to oversee development of regulations to govern:

- A. Pupil conduct on buses;
- B. Inservice education for bus drivers to include:
  - 1. Management of pupils;
  - 2. Safe driving practices; recognition of hazards;
  - 3. Special concerns in transporting handicapped pupils;
  - 4. Emergency procedures on the road; accident report.

### Accidents

Forms shall be provided for the immediate reporting of all incidents involving a district-owned or contracted vehicle that include any of the following:

- A. Physical injury to anyone concerned, no matter how minor
- B. Property damage of any kind, even if the financial loss is negligible
- C. Failure of any mechanical function of a district-owned or contracted vehicle during operation, even if no injury or damage results.

It shall be the responsibility of the chief school administrator to direct an investigation on the report and to comply with the law. The information gained shall be considered in evaluating personnel performances, and in scheduling inspection of vehicles.

### Drills

Emergency evacuation drills shall be conducted regularly throughout the school year to acquaint the pupil riders thoroughly with emergency situations. An emergency evacuation drill shall be held as soon as possible after the opening day of school and then at least twice a year.

### Vehicles and Equipment

All district-owned or contracted vehicles used to transport children shall be maintained in such condition as to provide safe and efficient transportation service with a minimum of delays and disruption due to mechanical or equipment failure.

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All district-owned or contracted vehicles used to transport children shall conform with state standards for such vehicles.

### Bus Drivers

Drivers of all Type I and Type II school vehicles used to transport district pupils must be licensed by the State of New Jersey as bus drivers. They must comply with any state requirements on physical condition, criminal history clearance, etc. Bus drivers are responsible for the safety of pupils entering, riding, and departing their vehicle.

#### Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2</u>	Authority over pupils
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:39</u>	Transportation to and from school
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:17 et seq.</u>	
<u>N.J.S.A. 39:3-10.9 et al.</u>	Federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Highway Safety Act of 1986
<u>N.J.S.A. 39:4-128.1</u>	Buses used for transportation of children stopped to receive or discharge passengers; duty of motorists and of bus driver; violations; penalties
<u>N.J.A.C. 6:21</u>	
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C. 6:21-1.2(c),</u>	
<u>-11.3(a)</u>	

Commercial Motor Vehicle Act of 1986

Policies and Procedures Manual for Pupil Transportation, N.J. State Department of Education

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts (P.T.M. No. 700.7, revised July 1988)

Policy Adopted: January 19, 1993