TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Loudoun County Public Schools is committed to providing safe and efficient transportation for all eligible students. The purpose of this policy is to establish the parameters in which transportation services are provided.

A. **Bus Transportation Authorized.**

   1. State law authorizes, but does not require, the Loudoun County School Board to transport students unless they are disabled and are attending a special education program. Therefore, nothing should be construed to require transportation to any student except as provided by §22.1-221 of the Code of Virginia.

   2. Students may be suspended from using school transportation services for violations of the Loudoun County Public Schools *Student Rights and Responsibilities* or when the student endangers the health, safety, and welfare of other riders. In such cases, the parent or guardian shall be responsible for transporting the student to and from school.

   3. When the School Board provides transportation for extracurricular activities that are not covered by an activity fund and in which the students are not required to attend or participate, the principal may accept contributions for such transportation or charge each student a pro-rata share of the cost. The fees may be waived for any student whose parent or guardian is financially unable to pay.

   4. When the School Board provides transportation for field trips which are part of the school's program and are sponsored by the school, the principal may not accept contributions for the cost.

B. **Determination of Bus Stops and Bus Routes.** The Loudoun County School Board authorizes the Director of Transportation to determine bus stops.

C. **School Bus Scheduling and Routing**

   1. A written vehicular and pedestrian traffic control plan for each existing school site shall be reviewed annually for safety. All new school site plans shall include provisions which promote vehicular and pedestrian safety.

   2. School bus routes, school sites, and safety of students at designated school bus stops shall be reviewed at least once a year and as changes occur. Hazardous or unusual situations, to include railway crossings, shall be marked on the route sheet and made available to drivers and substitutes.
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D. **Bus Seating.** The number of students who can be seated on a school bus is determined by the total number who can be seated on the seat cushion facing forward, safely seated within the seating compartment, and shall not exceed the manufacturer’s capacity. Students may be permitted to sit or stand in the aisle only during unforeseen emergency conditions.

E. **Maximum Speed Limits**

1. The maximum speed limit for school buses shall be 45 miles per hour or the minimum speed allowable, whichever is greater, on any highway where the maximum speed limit is 55 miles per hour or less, and 60 miles per hour on all interstate highways and on other highways where the maximum speed limit is more than 55 miles per hour.

2. All other licensed motor vehicles owned or operated by Loudoun County Public Schools shall be operated in compliance with the Code of Virginia and posted speed limits.

[Former Policies 6-6, 6-8, 6-9, 6-11, 6-19]
Adopted: 3/28/2017

Legal Refs: Code of Virginia §§ 22.1-176, 22.1-221, 22.1-78, 46.2-100, 46.2-870, 46.2-871, 46.2-875, 46.2-876, 46.2-878.1, 46.2-878.2, 8 VAC 20-70-160, 8 VAC 20-70-40,

Cross Ref: Policy 6210