

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

A. School Bus Safety Program. The safety and welfare of student riders will be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. Safety precautions will include the following:

1. The Transportation Coordinator will assure that students using District transportation are provided annual instruction as to the proper procedure for boarding and exiting from a school bus, and in proper and safe conduct while aboard. Additionally, the Transportation Coordinator will assure that emergency evacuation drills from school buses will be conducted at least two times a year to acquaint student riders with procedures in emergency situations (See RSA 189:6-a, I & II). Additionally, the Transportation Coordinator, is encouraged to establish guidelines for families relative to safe practices for students in between home and bus stops.
2. All vehicles used to transport children will be inspected on a regular schedule to see that they meet applicable safety regulations.
3. All drivers, whether employed by the District or a contracted vendor, and whether certified school bus drivers or contracted carriers under RSA 376:2, VII, will be screened before employment for physical condition, proper license, criminal records background check (per Board policy GBCD), and experience. The prior driving record of each driver will be checked for drug and alcohol or other convictions and a criminal records check must also be completed. All checks and screenings will be conducted in accordance with Board policy EEAEA.

B. Student Conduct on School Buses. Student conduct on District transportation shall be regulated in accordance with Board policy JICD.

Legal References:

- 20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
- RSA 189:6-a, School Bus Safety
- RSA 189:9-a Pupils Prohibited for Disciplinary Reasons
- RSA 189:13-b, School Bus Driver & Transportation Monitor Criminal History Records Check
- RSA 376:2, VII, Motor Carriage of Passengers
- RSA 570-A:2, Interception and Disclosure of Telecommunication or Oral Communications
- 49 C.F.R. § 40.1-40.13 (2001), Transportation Workplace Drug Testing Program
- 49 C.F.R. Part 382 (2021) Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing
- 49 C.F.R. Part 391 (1995), Qualifications of Drivers

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