

Descriptor Term:  
SCHOOL TRIPS

Descriptor Code:  
3.6320

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47, -288, -307

Cross References: 1.5100/4.3000/7.2700, School Safety; 4.3600 Code of Student Conduct; 5.0150 School Volunteers; 6.3200 Use of Student Transportation Services

School trips designed to stimulate student interest and inquiry may be appropriate classroom extensions and may enhance learning in the classroom. School trips can help meet educational goals and objectives by connecting learning and experiences outside the classroom environment.

#### A. AUTHORIZATION OF SCHOOL TRIPS

A school trip occurs when a student or group of students leaves a school campus under the sponsorship of the school and under the supervision of school employees to extend the educational experiences of that student or group. The principal must approve all school trips in advance. School trips that involve an overnight stay must also receive prior approval from the board. To be approved, a school trip must:

1. provide an effective method for accomplishing curriculum objectives;
2. be consistent with the educational goals of the board; and
3. keep to a minimum any disruptions of other educational programs and/or loss of instructional time.

The superintendent or his/her designee shall develop additional procedures for the request and approval of school trips.

#### B. COSTS

Students shall not be charged a fee for any required school trip for which credit is granted or that is necessary for participation in interscholastic sports. The board may impose fees for other non-required school trips. Any fees imposed for school trips shall be waived or reduced for students who demonstrate real economic hardship. The superintendent shall establish procedures to review requests for fee waivers or reductions and to notify students and parents of the availability of and the process for requesting a waiver or reduction of fees.

#### C. STUDENT SAFETY AND DISCIPLINE

Policy 1.5100/4.3000/7.2700, School Safety, and policy 4.3600, Code of Student Conduct apply to all students, school employees and volunteers while they are taking part in school trips.

#### D. TRANSPORTATION

Policy 6.3200, Use of Student Transportation Services, applies to the use of vehicles for all school trips.

#### E. CHAPERONES AND VOLUNTEERS

All chaperones and volunteers accompanying students on school trips must meet the standards established by policy 5.0150, School Volunteers.