

Descriptor Term:
SAFETY AND STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Descriptor Code:
6.3050

Legal References: G.S. 115C-239, -245, -248; 16 NCAC 6B.0102, .0103; 0003; NC School Bus Handbook, Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles

Cross References: 4.3600 Code of Student Conduct

Safety is of paramount concern in providing student transportation services. The board recognizes that providing safe transportation requires the cooperation of students, parents, volunteers, personnel and other governmental agencies. The superintendent or designee and all principals shall make reasonable efforts to inform affected individuals or entities about safety issues and monitor compliance with legal requirements and this policy.

A. Student Behavior

A safe and orderly environment is critical whenever transporting students. All board policies on student behavior apply as provided in 4.3600 Code of Student Conduct. Students will receive training on school bus safety as required by law.

B. Maintenance

The superintendent or designee and principals shall fulfill all duties prescribed by state law and regulations for maintaining, inspecting and repairing school buses and other vehicles used to transport students.

C. Unsafe Conditions

All school bus drivers are expected to use good judgment in determining whether it is safe to operate a school vehicle, and to permit students to enter or to leave the bus at particular locations. Bus drivers must report immediately any suspected mechanical defects or other unsafe conditions, including road or traffic conditions which affect the safeness of the bus route or bus stops.

D. Accident Reporting

The driver of any school bus or other school vehicle must report immediately to the superintendent or designee any accident involving death, injury or injury to property.