

Special Transportation

The following uses of district transportation are a privilege, not a right, and, except where bound by the terms of a lease, the district may revoke that privilege through official board action at a regularly scheduled and advertised meeting. The superintendent will have the authority to modify transportation services for school and extracurricular activities when the available fuel supply for regular transportation services appears to fall below the required level. Administrators working with the district transportation department may deny transportation to any student who violates the district's written rules and regulations.

A. School Activities

Transportation may be provided by the district for all activities which have been officially designated by the board as school activities. Activities may include, but not be limited to:

1. Educational field trips growing out of regular classroom activity which are planned by the teacher, approved by the principal and supervised by school staff, provided that any overnight trip or any trip beyond a 100 mile radius of the district requires prior approval of the board; and
2. Athletics, debate, drama or music programs or other board-approved co-curricular programs.

Participants in any other activity who feel such activity should be considered an official school activity may petition the board, through the superintendent, to have it considered as a school activity.

B. Extracurricular Activities

The superintendent may authorize the use of district transportation vehicles transporting nonparticipating students to extracurricular activities. Such vehicles may be so used when the users pay an amount sufficient to reimburse the district for the complete cost of such use. District drivers will be used on all such trips. Participants will be supervised by staff.

C. Leasing of Buses

The board may enter into a written lease agreement with any of the following:

1. A nonprofit organization transporting children with disabilities and/or persons at least 60 years of age to and from the site of activities or programs deemed beneficial to such persons by such organizations, provided that commercial bus service is not reasonably available for such purpose;
2. A governmental agency transporting personnel, supplies and/or evacuees in the event of a major forest fire, flood or other natural disaster; or
3. A user conducting an educational recreation program supported wholly or in part by tax funds.

Such a lease agreement will contain a clause absolving the district of any and all liability arising from the lessee's use and operation of the district's buses and a clause requiring the lessee to maintain adequate insurance to recompense the district for the potential loss of the buses leased. Potential users will stipulate in writing that commercial or charter bus service is not reasonably available to provide the services for which a school bus is needed. The user will reimburse the district for the actual costs plus a reasonable fee for use of the bus. Funds derived from the lease of a surplus bus will be deposited in the transportation vehicle fund. If a bus is a part of the regular fleet, the funds derived from a rental or lease agreement may be deposited in the general fund.

D. Cooperative Programs

The board may enter into cooperative transportation agreements with other districts when it is economically advantageous to the cooperating districts and when it does not impair the quality of educational programs available to students.

Cross References: 6605 - Student Safety Walking to School and Riding Buses
 6112 - Rental or Lease of District Real Property
 2320 - Field Trips, Excursions And Outdoor Education

Legal References: RCW 28A.160.010 Operation of student transportation program — Responsibility of local district — Transporting of elderly — Insurance
 RCW 28A.160.040 Lease of buses to transport children with disabilities and elderly — Limitation
 RCW 28A.160.070 Lease of buses to transport children with disabilities and elderly — Elderly persons defined — Program limitation
 RCW 28A.160.080 School buses, rental or lease for emergency purposes — Authorization
 RCW 28A.160.100 School buses, transportation of general public to interscholastic activities— Limitations
 RCW 28A.160.120 Agreements with other governmental entities for transportation of public or other noncommon school purposes — Limitations
 RCW 28A.335.060 Surplus school property — Rental, lease or use of — Disposition of moneys received from

Adoption Date: 07.03
Lopez Island School District
Classification: Priority
Revised Dates: 08.18