

AP 561 - TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Background

The District recognizes that students enrolled in district special education programs may require special transportation consideration. The extent of this service will take into account factors identified below. Transportation for students with special needs is to be provided where possible balancing the needs of the student with the requirement to safely transport all students to school. Requests for transportation shall be considered on the individual circumstances of the student and the collective circumstances of the bus and the projected bus route.

Procedures

1. Students with special needs that are mobile and able to demonstrate independence may be transported on the same basis as a regular passenger.
2. Students with special needs that have significant mobility issues and lack independence may be transported to and from school provided that:
 - 2.1 An evaluation of the student be completed by Support Services staff to provide information to assist with a decision.
 - 2.2 An Individual Education Plan (IEP) be completed; such plan to include specific program needs that relate to riding independently.
 - 2.3 The District Administrator, Support Services is responsible for directing specific modifications that may be required to attend to the specific needs of the student.
 - 2.4 The bus driver, parents, Principal and Teacher keep an open line of communication regarding the needs and progress of the student.
 - 2.5 Where the student is secured through a harness or locking mechanism (as in the case of a wheelchair) that appropriate arrangements be made by the bus driver in consultation with SD 79 OT to establish a procedure to release the student and assist them to safety in the case of an emergency.

Reference: Sections 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

Adopted: September 1, 2018