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## **POLICY EEA – STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

**The Board believes, that for resident children/students approved by the Board, it has a responsibility to make arrangements for the safe transportation of students to and from school.**

### **PURPOSE:**

To provide guidelines for the delivery of transportation services to Peace Wapiti Public School Division students.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

1. Route: the path between the home and school on travelled roads or public right of ways.
2. For this policy the term ‘student’ includes both children below Grade 1 accessing Early Childhood Services (referred to as children in the Funding Manual and *Education Act*) and children in Grade 1 and higher (referred to as students in the Education Manual and *Education Act*).
3. \* Eligible Winter Service Students – are students who need to walk from the gate of their property to their pick up point.
4. Primary or Secondary Highways - #1-216 and 500-986
  - a. Inter Provincial Highways (level 1) - #1, 2, 3, 4, 16 and 43

### **GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES**

1. Service is provided to within 0.4 km. from the gate or approach of the residence on which the student resides.
  - a) Exceptions:
    - i) Requests for yard pickups may be approved, if in the opinion of the Director of Transportation, the driveway and turnaround area in the yard is able to accommodate a turnaround, and for:
      - (1) any bus turnaround on a Primary or Secondary Highway;
      - (2) bus turnarounds that are deemed a safety issue by the Director of Transportation or designate because of limited sight lines and/or traffic patterns or if the driveway is not a suitable turn around and there are no other options for turning. i.e.) hills and curves;
      - (3) pickups and drop offs on Primary Highways and rural roads that are deemed unsafe by the Director of Transportation or designate because of limited sight lines. i.e.) hills and curves;
      - (4) pickups and drop offs on Inter Provincial Highways where students would have to walk across the Highway that are deemed a safety issue by the Director of Transportation or designate due to heavy traffic patterns. (Yard

pickup would only be provided on the morning and/or afternoon route that the students have to cross the highway.);

(5) turnarounds where appropriate waivers have been obtained.

- b) Winter service shall be provided from November 1 to March 31. Eligible students\* will be provided gate service during this time.
- c) Winter yard service shall be provided November 1 - March 31 to students whose residence is located in excess of .8 km from the nearest public road subject to:
  - i) the driveway and turnaround area in the yard being able to accommodate the bus safely, in the opinion of the Director of Transportation; and
  - ii) none of the students at the residence exceed the age of 11 years.

2. Transportation of Students with Special Needs

- a) When necessary, door service is provided for students with special needs upon application and approval of the Superintendent or designate.
- b) Transportation is provided for students with special needs who are unable to ride a bus under the following circumstances:

If the parent or guardian so agrees, the Board will provide remuneration at the prevailing jurisdiction transportation rate from the student's residence to the designated school or busing service point. Such a contract is to remain in effect until such time that:

- i) either party provides the other with thirty (30) days' notice in writing of intent to cancel the agreement; or
- ii) the Board can provide regular busing service or other transportation service as it deems appropriate to convey the student to a school to which he or she is placed; or
- iii) the student ceases to be a resident of the jurisdiction; or
- iv) the end of the school year.

3. The Board may enter into a contract with a student's parent or guardian to transport their student to the designated school or to the appropriate busing pick up point nearest to or at the student's residence, if:

- a) the student is directed to a placement in a school outside the student's normal attendance area to receive special education services; or
- b) the Board deems that a student is unable to be transported on a school bus due to the student's age or special needs.

4. The Board delegates to the Director of Transportation decisions about transporting preschool children accompanied by their parent/guardian while the parent/guardian is driving or being transported in the school bus.

5. If a parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the decision of the Director of Transportation regarding route design, they may appeal to the Transportation Committee of the Board on one occasion only, unless circumstances change significantly.

#### REFERENCES

##### **Cross References:**

*Policy EEABA – Cross Boundary Transportation*  
[Exhibit 1: Waiver Form](#)

##### **Legal Reference:**

[Education Act](#) Section 53, 59  
[Commercial Vehicle Safety Regulation](#) AR 121/2009 Section 19

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**Next Review:** 2020/21