

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULING AND ROUTING REGULATIONS

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Issued:

Orange County Schools Transportation will use the following guidelines and routing regulations to determine transportation provided for students.

Routing Regulations and Guidelines:

1. Public school buses shall be routed on state maintained highways to pass each students house.
2. Buses shall not be scheduled on spur routes of less than 0.5 miles unless it is to transport students in kindergarten through third grades who are not accompanied by an older student or there are 10 or more students at the stop.
3. Appropriate transportation shall be provided for all special education pupils when it has been shown in their Individual Education Programs that special transportation is required and a transportation request is filled out and approved by the Exceptional Children Program Director and then sent to the Transportation Department to be added to an existing exceptional child bus route.
4. School bus passenger stops shall be no closer together than 0.2 miles unless mandated by documented safety factors.
5. School bus stops shall be established only at safe places. Stops shall be made on the highways where the bus can be seen clearly for a safe distance from both directions (clear visibility of 500 feet in each direction at a minimum). State approval will be requested for bus stops at locations with less visibility.
6. School buses shall not wait at bus stops for more than 30 seconds for secondary school students or more than one minute for elementary school students. For transportation purposes, secondary school students will be students in the sixth through twelfth grades and elementary school students will be students in the kindergarten through fifth grades.
7. Major deviations from the above guidelines shall be allowed for safety reasons. Any major deviation shall be documented with the bus route plan.

These Student Transportation Route Regulations provide specific administrative directives. While these guidelines do not cover the entire range of transportation concerns, they are intended to allow for consistent, fair and equitable solutions for the more common routing problems.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy, the following terms shall mean:

Convenience: Suitable for personal comfort and well-being, which can be measured in terms of the degree of satisfaction of the parties served by pupil transportation.

Safety: Protected from damage, personal injury, or loss of life. Also, a state of being cautious, which can be measured indirectly by the absence of accidents, injuries, or loss of life. Associated with safety are first-aid and management of student passengers.

Efficiency: The ability to operate the school buses on daily scheduled routes with a minimum of cost and waste, which can be measured in the amount of dollars required to transport students.

Spur Route: A branch of the main route in which a bus must return to the main route either by turning around or traveling a loop road.

Legal Reference: G. S. 115C-240, -244, -246; Special Appropriation Act, General Assembly Session 1983, Section 79; N.C.A.C. T16:03 .0700 et seq.