

APPROVED VEHICLES FOR CONVEYING STUDENTS

Background

The safe transportation of students is of primary concern to the Board. Accordingly, it is necessary to ensure that where transportation for students is being provided by the School District only safe vehicles are used for such transportation. This policy applies to all School District provided transportation, including bus service, transportation for field trips and transportation to school sponsored extra-curricular events.

Licensing

All vehicles transporting student must comply with applicable British Columbia Motor Vehicle Act Regulations.

1. The driver of a motor vehicle transporting students must possess the applicable license for driving the number of persons on the vehicle. The license requirements at the adoption of this policy are:
 - 1.1 Where vehicle capacity is 25 passengers or more, a Class 2 License
 - 1.2 Where vehicle capacity is 10 passengers or more, but fewer than 25, a Class 4 License
 - 1.3 Where vehicle capacity is 10 passengers or less, a Class 5 License

2. School Buses

School District employees shall comply with the applicable motor vehicle regulations with respect to the vehicles used for the transport of students. In particular:

- 2.1 The School District shall not use, or cause to be used, on its behalf, for scheduled transportation, a vehicle other than:
 - 2.1.1 a yellow and black school bus, or a special vehicle, that is the subject of a permit issued under section 11.03 (1) of the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (BC Reg 26/58)
 - 2.1.2 a taxi, cab, or
 - 2.1.3 a special activity bus as defined in those regulations.
- 2.2 The School District shall not use, or cause to be used, on its behalf, for non-scheduled transportation, a vehicle other than:
 - 2.2.1 a vehicle referred to in section (1) above, or
 - 2.2.2 a special activity bus that is the subject of a permit issued under section 11.03 (1) of the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations.

3. Multi-Passenger Vans

The School District is aware of an existing public debate concerning the safety of 15 passenger vans for the transportation of students. In particular, the School District is aware that there exist concerns that transporting students in such vans may unduly increase the risk of harm to those students because of the handling characteristics of such vehicles and the possible changes to those characteristics depending on the load of the vehicle. At this time, the Ministry of Education has not provided a direction to School Districts concerning the use of such vehicles. However, because of the School District's concern for student safety, the use of such vehicles for the purpose of transporting students is banned by the School District effective January 15, 2008. Should further information or direction become available to the School District concerning the safety of such vehicles, the Board may reconsider or modify this direction.

Reference: Motor Vehicle Act Regulations 11.03, 11.05
AP 255 Volunteer Drivers and the Use of Privately Owned Vehicles

Last revised: June 2021