

## REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 18

**File: EEAA**

### WALKERS AND RIDERS

Transportation shall be provided for all school children who live beyond such reasonable distances from their schools as the Board may determine.

In addition, transportation shall be provided for all special education students, students attending the regional vocational school, and others as prescribed by law or deemed advisable by the Board.

The following guidelines shall be observed:

#### Walking Policies

1. All K-2 students shall be provided transportation services.
2. Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 shall walk up to one mile to their elementary schools.
3. Students in grades 6-8 shall walk up to one and one-half miles to the Middle School.
4. Students in grades 9-12 shall walk up to one and one-half miles to the High School.

Distances are measured from the nearest school entrance along a reasonable route to home.

Exceptions to the walking limits may be made by the school administration when roads are determined to be unsafe because of hazardous traffic conditions. Requests for exceptions may be made through the Transportation Supervisor to the Superintendent.

The police and the highway department will be notified of the roads used by walkers and will be requested to maintain these roads in as safe a condition as possible by controlling highway speeds and keeping the roads clear of snow. Additionally, crossing guards will be provided to the extent possible at intersections and main crossing points when school officials and police deem such areas unsafe for normal unsupervised crossing.

#### Riding Policies

1. Children may be required to walk a reasonable distance to a scheduled bus stop. Children living on outlying roads, where bus routes are not established will walk to the designated bus stop on the main road and be transported from there to their respective schools.
2. Stops will be chosen with concern for numbers and the safety of the children involved.

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3. Bus drivers shall pick up only at scheduled stops; they shall not admit students not assigned to the particular bus without written or oral permission of parent. Drivers are required not to exceed the legal bus capacity.
4. Children shall ride only on assigned buses. At the close of school, they shall not be permitted to disembark at other points or to ride other buses unless they have the written approval of their parents and the building principal.

The school administration, with the approval of the Board, may make exceptions where this is in the best interests of the child and the School Unit. Requests for exceptions to the Board's transportation policy may be made through the Transportation Supervisor to the Superintendent, who shall consider such requests for possible submission to the Board.

Legal Reference: Title 20A, M.R.S.A., Sect. 5401

Cross Reference: EEACC-R, Student Conduct – Rules of Behavior

Date of Adoption: April 16, 2009

Policies/RSU No. 18 Policies/E – Support Services/EEAA – Walkers and Riders