

**BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT**

Subject: **Student Transportation Services**

Policy Number: **EEA** Effective Date: **2/2024**

Date of Original Policy and Revisions: **1/84, 19/91, 1/96, 11/99, 1/06, 6/07, 2/08, 11/08, 12/10, 2/13, 2/16, 6/19, 1/20**

Cancels Policy No.: **JGG, EE** Dated: **1/84**

Date of Next Review: **2/2027**

**POLICY**

School transportation services will be provided for students to and from school in accordance with State and Federal laws, regulations, and guidelines pertaining to school bus transportation. Students navigating homelessness will be provided transportation to and from the student’s school of origin<sup>1</sup> as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled year and during the regular school day as determined by the Board.

Students living within specified attendance boundaries shall receive transportation services to their respective schools. In addition, students, including those receiving special education, may be eligible for transportation for safety, health or other reasons.

The Board may provide transportation for students between the various Bethel schools and other places of instruction to which they are assigned for educational purposes.

The District may use Type 10 School Activity Vehicles to transport students from home to school, school to home and from District-sponsored activities.

Transportation will be arranged for educational field trips. Participants in athletics and other activities may need to provide their own transportation for events within the Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area.

Transportation for students receiving special education services will be provided as determined by IEP teams. Preschool students with disabilities who have transportation as a related service and children from birth to age three who are enrolled in an eligible program shall be provided home to school transportation.

The District may also provide transportation using federal funds<sup>2</sup> or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe District school<sup>3</sup> out of the student’s attendance area for any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends or the student attends a school identified as persistently dangerous.

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<sup>1</sup>“School of origin” means the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.

When the student has completed the final grade served by the school of origin, the term “school of origin” shall include the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools.

<sup>2</sup>“Federal funds” means funds available through Title IV, Part A, and Title V, Part A.

<sup>3</sup>If there is not another school in the District to which students can transfer, districts are encouraged, but not required, to explore other appropriate options, i.e., an agreement with a neighboring district.

**BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT**

If there are no other schools within the District a student may transfer to, the District may establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area for a transfer. Transportation for students who transfer for such purposes will be provided in accordance with the agreement.

Students attending any private, parochial or public charter school under the compulsory school attendance laws will, where the private, parochial or public charter school is along or near the bus route, be provided equally the riding privileges given to public school students.

Transportation will be provided for students whose parent or guardian voluntarily placed the child outside the child's home with a public or private agency and who is living in a licensed, certified or approved substitute care program, and whose residency is established pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 339.134.

A seat that fully supports each person and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law will be provided at all times. A person who weighs 40 pounds or less must be properly secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Oregon Department of Transportation under ORS 815.055. A person over 40 pounds or who has reached the upper weight limit for the forward-facing car seat must use a booster seat until he/she is four feet nine inches tall or age eight and the adult belt properly fits.<sup>4</sup> A person who is taller than four feet nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055. In accordance with ORS 811.210 and 811.215 vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds used for student transportation are exempt from statutory requirements unless they have been equipped with lap belts. Vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds that have been equipped with lap belts must meet child car seat requirements as set forth in law.

School buses carrying students will be considered extensions of the school experience. All students using school transportation will abide by the code of conduct posted in each school bus or school activity vehicle. Violations of such code, as well as other conduct which is improper or which jeopardizes the safety of self or others, will be reported by the school bus or vehicle driver to the transportation supervisor. The transportation supervisor will, as soon as possible, inform the appropriate administrator of such occurrence. Violators may be denied use of transportation for a period of time as deemed proper by the administrator and transportation supervisor.

The principal or designee shall ensure transportation officials and drivers shall receive notification of students having special medical or behavioral protocols identified in student records. Drivers shall receive appropriate training related to specified protocols, including requirements of confidentiality.

The school bus or vehicle driver will be responsible for the school bus or vehicle at all times from departure until return. The driver will not participate in any activities that might impair their driving abilities.

Aides or assistants that ride a school bus shall receive training on emergency procedures and their role in the safe transportation of all students on the bus.

**REPORTS**

None.

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<sup>4</sup>“Proper fit” means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

**BETHEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #52  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT**

**ATTACHMENTS**

None.

**END OF POLICY**

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**REFERENCES / COMMENTS**

**Legal Reference(s):**

<a href="#">ORS 327.006</a>	<a href="#">ORS 343.533</a>
<a href="#">ORS 327.033</a>	<a href="#">ORS 343.155 to-343.243</a>
<a href="#">ORS 327.043</a>	<a href="#">ORS 811.210</a>
<a href="#">ORS 332.405</a>	<a href="#">ORS 811.215</a>
<a href="#">ORS 332.415</a>	<a href="#">ORS 815.055</a>
<a href="#">ORS 339.240 to-339.250</a>	<a href="#">ORS 815.080</a>
<a href="#">ORS 343.155 to-343.246</a>	<a href="#">ORS 820.100 to-820.190</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-021-0050 to-0075</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0040</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-022-1530</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0053</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-023-0040</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0060</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0002</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0070</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0003</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0210</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0004</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0220</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0010</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0230</a>
<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0031</a>	<a href="#">OAR 581-053-0240</a>
	<a href="#">OAR 735-102-0010</a>

Senate Bill 905 (2019)

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6315, 7912 (2018).  
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435 (2012).

[Bethel Administrative Rule EEA: Student Transportation Services](#)