

School transportation may be used in connection with the operation and support of extracurricular activities and school-sponsored activities upon the approval of the superintendent or designee. The determination of whether district-owned or contractor-owned school buses or vehicles will be used for transportation to and from extracurricular or school-sponsored activities will be made solely by the district. Such decisions will include, but are not limited to, the decision to provide transportation, the persons to be transported, the vehicles to be used, transportation scheduling, and any other necessary arrangements applicable to the particular trip. Only students, teachers and other adults appointed as a chaperone for the trip by the building principal, teacher/coach, or other designee may ride the bus to or from an activity. The building principal or designee may give permission for non-students to ride the bus in exceptional circumstances when space is available.

District employees may make transportation arrangements when directed or approved to do so by the superintendent, building principal, or designee. Employees approved to make transportation arrangements shall notify the superintendent, building principal or other designee of all confirmed transportation arrangements. A copy of the passenger list and trip details must be left with the building principal or designee prior to departure. District employees shall not use a personal vehicle to transport students.

School buses or other vehicles used for activity busing will be in safe mechanical condition. No school buses or other vehicles will be operated, loaded, or equipped in such a way as to constitute a hazard to the safety of the students being transported. School bus emergency egress systems shall remain operable and the bus aisle shall remain clear of obstruction while students are being transported.

The district will maintain accurate records of all activity trips in all school buses and non-conforming vehicles used in the transportation of students and transportation personnel, including the purposes of the trip, mileage and operation, and vehicle maintenance costs. An annual odometer reading will be taken at the end of each fiscal year on all district-owned vehicles used in the transportation of students.

### **STUDENT TRAVEL TO/FROM ACTIVITIES**

Unless other travel arrangements are preauthorized by the building principal, teacher/coach, or other designee, or where a student is released directly to a parent/guardian at the close of the activity, students riding to an activity in a school bus are expected to return on it. Release to a parent/guardian will require a signed, dated note from the parent/guardian. Students on such trips are required to comply with the rules and regulations governing daily school transportation.

During periods of communicable or infectious disease outbreak in which the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or local public health authority recommend social distancing practices that limit the number of students who may be transported on district-owned or operated school buses, students may be temporarily permitted to transport themselves to extracurricular activities. The superintendent or designee will notify students and parents/guardians when such circumstances exist and the period during which self-transportation will be permitted. Students desiring to self-transport must have the written permission of a parent/guardian and a signed waiver and release prior to the activity.

Unless a period of communicable or infectious disease outbreak exists as described above, under no circumstances will student participants be allowed to transport themselves or other students to or from the activity, except in the presence of his or her parent/guardian. In such instances, a waiver and release signed by the student's parent/guardian must be on file with the school prior to the activity.

In the event the district does not provide transportation to an extracurricular activity, responsibility for transportation to and from the activity will remain with the parent/guardian. Parents/guardians will be required to sign a waiver and release of claims prior to the extracurricular activity or event, which waiver and release will remain on file at the appropriate school.

At least one teacher, coach or adult sponsor is required for each bus traveling to an extracurricular activity. All teachers, coaches and adult sponsors are required to be familiar with this policy prior to travel. Adults on each bus will be responsible for supervision of students and enforcement of bus rules. Bus drivers will be responsible for the safe operation of the bus in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and district policies.

This policy does not apply to activities such as promos or other school-sponsored dances in which student participation is optional, or attendance as a spectator at an athletic or other school-sponsored event.



#### **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

##### Idaho Code Sections

33-512(12) – Governance of Schools (Extracurricular Activities)

33-1501 – Transportation Authorized

##### IDAPA Sections

08.02.02.004.01 – *Standards for Idaho School Buses and Operations*, July 2018

08.02.02.170 – School Bus Drivers and Vehicle Operation

08.02.02.180 – Written Policy (Activity Transportation)

08.02.02.190 – Program Operations

**ADOPTED:** July, 1999

**AMENDED:** March 19, 2024