

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation

The Board of Education will provide transportation, under the provisions of state law and regulations, under contract, for all students who qualify for such service, except in instances where the services can be provided more economically by other means.

The Superintendent of Schools shall administer the operation to:

1. Provide for maximum safety of students.
2. Supplement and reinforce desirable student behavior patterns.
3. Appropriately assist students with disabilities.
4. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips as recommended by the staff.

Transportation by private carrier may be provided whenever such practice is more economical than using school district-owned facilities. Parents may be reimbursed for transportation of eligible students whenever such practice is more economical or convenient.

Federal Compliance

Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the school of origin as required by applicable law. These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled school year and day as determined by the Board.

Transportation will be provided for an eligible student who attends a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified as in need of improvement, or the student 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.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education
 10-220 Duties of boards of education
 14-275 Equipment and color of school buses
 14-275a Use of standard school bus required when.
 14-275b Transportation of handicapped students.
 14-275c Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special education students.
 14-276a (c) Town/school district may require its school bus operators to have completed a safety training course.
 14-280 Letters and signals to be concealed when not used in transporting children. Signs on other vehicles.
 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, 42 U.S.C., Sections 11431-11435

~~Non-Instructional Operations~~

~~Student Transportation~~

~~The Bristol Board of Education will provide transportation to all eligible students residing within Bristol in a manner consistent with Connecticut General Statutes.~~

~~All school age students, who reside in Bristol and are attending Bristol Schools, or specified State Regional Technical Schools, shall be eligible for transportation or remuneration in lieu of transportation according to the specifications of this policy.~~

~~Authority:~~

~~The designated staff of the Bristol Board of Education shall have full authority to:~~

- ~~1. fix the routes and establish loading and discharge points along the routes;~~
- ~~2. determine the safest walking distance based on the extent and seriousness of the highway and road hazards;~~
- ~~3. accommodate physically exceptional children and require acceptable data or a physician's certificate concerning the health or condition of the child at any time; and~~
- ~~4. delegate disciplinary authority to building administrators.~~

~~Routes and Services:~~

- ~~1. School Transportation services are provided exclusively for the benefit and safety of the student population and are to be used only in support of programs authorized by and under the auspices of the School Board.~~
- ~~2. A written request must be submitted by the parent/guardian to the principal of the school for his/her official approval each time a child is to take a bus other than his/her regular one.~~
- ~~3. In all cases covered by this policy, the parent or guardian is jointly responsible with the school system for the student until he/she boards the bus, or if walking, arrives on the school grounds. At the end of each day, the parent or guardian is jointly responsible with the school system for the student at the time he/she exits the bus, or if walking, exits the school grounds.~~
- ~~4. Cul-de-Sacs: For safety reasons Bristol school buses do not enter into cul-de-sacs unless the child has a physical impairment that would prohibit the child from walking to the entrance corner.—~~

~~Walkers and Riders~~

~~Eligibility for transportation is dependent upon the following definitions:~~

- ~~1. Definitions:~~
 - ~~a. Walker: A student who is not eligible for transportation because they live within the walking distance proscribed for that level.~~
 - ~~b. Rider: A student who lives outside of the walk zone, within a designated hazard route, or has needs identified in an I.E.P or Section 504 Plan.~~

~~e. Walking Distance: means the linear measure of a prescribed or authorized pedestrian route between the pupil's residence and his/her school from a point at the curb or edge of a public road or highway nearest the pupil's residence to the nearest allowable paved access of the school.~~

~~Eligibility for Transportation~~

~~Transportation of both public and private school students who are living at the following distances from their respective schools will be transported at the expense of the Board:-~~

- ~~1. Kindergarten students living more than (1) one mile from their schools;~~
- ~~2. Elementary school students in grades one – five living more than (1) one mile from their schools;~~
- ~~3. K-8 students living more than one (1) mile from their school;~~
- ~~4. Middle school living more than (1.5) one and one half miles from their school;~~
- ~~5. High school students living more than (2) two miles from their school; and~~
- ~~6. A student living in an area designated as a hazard route by the Police Department.~~

~~Student Transportation Plans~~

- ~~1. Parents/Guardians must inform the school of their transportation plan at the beginning of the school year. If a child is entitled to transportation, but the parent chooses to drop-off and/or pick up their child, the school should be notified of this decision in writing.~~
- ~~2. To best insure the safety of our students, bus routes must be consistent on a daily basis. That is, students will not be dropped off at a variety of locations. Parents will be responsible for transporting their children to locations other than the regular daily bus stop.~~
- ~~3. Transportation is provided to the child's residence bus stop or child care provider. A fixed schedule of pick up and drop off is required to ensure the safety of every child. Any changes to a child's regular transportation plan must be made in writing 48 hours in advance.~~

~~Out of District Transportation~~

~~The Bristol Board of Education does not provide transportation for students attending Magnet or Charter Schools outside of the City of Bristol.~~

~~Child Care Transportation~~

- ~~1. Transportation shall be provided for children who live in an elementary public school area who are normally eligible for transportation and attend a parent authorized child care program in that school attendance area.~~
- ~~2. Children within an elementary public school area not normally eligible for busing who attend a parent authorized child care program whose location is eligible for busing will be allowed busing privileges on a space available basis. Space available basis shall mean that the children who are not normally eligible for transportation and are permitted to ride~~

~~buses to or from a parent authorized babysitter who is located in an eligible transportation area shall NOT be permitted to continue with transportation, if/when the bus reaches capacity.~~

~~3. Students will not be transported to child care providers outside of their school of attendance attendance area.~~

~~4. Transportation shall not be provided to or from a parent authorized child care provider located within the walk zone of a public school.~~

~~5. Each parent must complete the parent authorization form in order to be eligible for child care transportation.~~

Appeals

~~1. Discuss the matter with the principal of the school to which the student is assigned.~~

~~2. If no resolution is reached under (1) above, discuss the matter with the Transportation Coordinator.~~

~~3. If no resolution is reached under (2) above, discuss the matter with the Deputy Superintendent of Schools~~

~~4. Any parent, guardian, student at majority or officer, who believes that the Superintendent, or his/her designee, has not furnished school accommodations, by transportation or otherwise to himself or herself or to his/her child manner consistent with the laws of the State of Connecticut or the Guidelines pursuant to this policy may, in writing, request a hearing before the Board to show the Board the manner in which the Superintendent has so failed to furnish such accommodations.~~

~~a. The Board shall hold a hearing within (10) Days following receipt of such request.~~

~~b. The hearing before the Board will be in compliance with the provisions of Section 4-177 to 4-180 inclusive of the Connecticut General Statutes.~~

~~5. In conducting a transportation hearing, the role of the Board of Education may be fulfilled by any of the following options:~~

~~A. A hearing conducted by the Board of Education with at least three members present.~~

~~B. A hearing conducted by a sub-committee (typically three members) of the Board as appointed by the Board chairperson.~~

~~C. A hearing conducted by a hearing officer as designated by vote of the Board of Education.~~

~~A tape recording shall be made of such hearing.~~

~~The Superintendent of Schools and the Chairperson of the Board of Education will use their discretion in determining which of the above options will be utilized in the scheduling of each individual transportation hearing.~~

Transportation Complaints

~~All transportation school bus safety complaints must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Superintendent of Schools. Transportation safety complaints must be specific as to date, time and location of the incident; the name of the driver or number of the bus involved; nature of the complaint; names of witnesses; and name, address, and signature of the complainant.~~

~~Based on the nature of the complaint, the Deputy Superintendent may elect to take immediate action and/or forward the complaint to the appropriate authority, School Principal, Police Department, Transportation Coordinator, etc. The Deputy Superintendent will respond in writing to the complainant within (30) days.~~

~~Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes~~

~~9-177 to 4-180 Contested cases. Notice. Record~~

~~10-97 Transportation to Vocational Schools~~

~~10-186 Duties of local and regional Boards of Education Hearing. Appeal~~

~~10-220 Duties of Boards of Education~~

~~10-220c Transportation of children over private roads immunity from liability~~

~~10-280a Transportation for pupils in non-profit schools outside school district~~

~~14-126a Commissioner to make regulations regarding reporting of school bus accident~~

~~14-275a Use of standard school bus required~~

~~14-275b Transportation of mobility impaired students~~

~~14-275c Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special education students~~

Policy Adopted: November 7, 2001

BRISTOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Revised: September 8, 2004

Bristol, Connecticut

Policy Revised: June 6, 2012

Policy Revised: June 7, 2017

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Routes and Services:

1. School Transportation services are provided exclusively for the benefit and safety of the student population and are to be used only in support of programs authorized by and under the auspices of the School Board.
2. A written request must be submitted by the parent/guardian to the principal of the school for his/her official approval each time a child is to take a bus other than his/her regular one.
3. In all cases covered by this policy, the parent or guardian is jointly responsible with the school system for the student until he/she boards the bus, or if walking, arrives on the school grounds. At the end of each day, the parent or guardian is jointly responsible with the school system for the student at the time he/she exits the bus, or if walking, exits the school grounds.
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Transportation

Student Transportation Plans (continued)

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3. Students will not be transported to child care providers outside of their school-of-attendance area.
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5. Each parent must complete the parent authorization form in order to be eligible for child care transportation.

Appeals

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Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation

Appeals (continued)

4. Any parent, guardian, student at majority or officer, who believes that the Superintendent, or his/her designee, has not furnished school accommodations, by transportation or otherwise to himself or herself or to his/her child manner consistent with the laws of the State of Connecticut or the Guidelines pursuant to this policy may, in writing, request a hearing before the Board to show the Board the manner in which the Superintendent has so failed to furnish such accommodations.

- a. The Board shall hold a hearing within (10) Days following receipt of such request.
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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-76d re transportation for special education program services.

10-97 Transportation to vocational schools.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education regarding school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to the state board. Establishment of the hearing board.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-220c Transportation of children over private roads. Immunity from liability.

10-273a Reimbursement for transportation to and from elementary and secondary schools.

10-280a Transportation for students in non-profit private schools outside the school district.

10-281 Transportation for students in non-profit private schools within the school district.

14-275a Use of standard school bus required when.

14-- 275b Transportation of Handicapped Students.

14-275c Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special education students.

14-280 Letters and signals to be concealed when not used in transporting children. Signs on other vehicles.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, 42 U.S.C., Sections 11431-11435

Regulation approved:



CHILD CARE AUTHORIZATION

I _____ hereby authorize the Bristol Board of

(Parent or Guardians name)

Education to Pick up and/or Drop off my child at the following child care provider.

Student: _____ School: _____

Grade: _____ Parent/Guardian Contact #: _____

Child Care Provider's Name: _____

Child Care Provider Address: _____

Child Care Provider's PHONE NUMBER: _____

DAYS ATTENDING DAY CARE: ___ MON ___ TUES ___ WED ___ THUR ___ FRI

PICKUP [a.m.] Address: _____

DROP OFF [p.m.]Address: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____ SCHOOL YEAR _____

I understand that the pick up and/or drop off address MUST BE ON AN EXISTING BUS ROUTE for the school year and MUST BE IN MY CHILD'S PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA. I will accept full responsibility for my child when he /she is at this address.

Please submit this authorization form to the main office at your child's school, and allow 48 hours in change of transportation to take effect.

Any changes to this plan must be made in writing and submitted to the school principal who will forward it to the Transportation Coordinator.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

DATE

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE FROM ONE YEAR TO THE NEXT.