

USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES ON SCHOOL BUSINESS

The Board recognizes the need for some school employees, or other persons serving in an official capacity, to use their own motor vehicle for school purposes. To safeguard the District and employees in matters of liability, the following policy guidelines will be observed:

1. District employees or other persons serving in an official capacity shall have the written permission of the district administrator, or designee, in order to use a private motor vehicle for school purposes. Permission may only be granted if the person providing transportations has satisfactorily met all District and state laws requirements.
2. The District shall assume no responsibility for liability in case of accident, unless the employee or other person serving in an official capacity has obtained the necessary authorization. In all cases, however, the driver's automobile insurance is the primary carrier, with the District's insurance being secondary.
3. Transportation of students by private vehicle shall be strongly discouraged and shall be used only when no other transportation is available or practical.
4. The vehicle operator must have a valid Wisconsin operator's license or a valid operator's license issued by another jurisdiction, as defined by state law.
5. The operator must submit to a criminal background check on an annual basis.
6. The employee must be at least 18 years of age.
7. The vehicle operator must have sufficient use of both hands and the foot normally employed to operate the foot brake and foot accelerator. The Board may waive this requirement if the operator has sufficient use of one hand to safely operate the vehicle which the Board proposes the operator use, as substantiated by a special driving examination conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT).
8. Every three years the operator must submit a medical opinion on the *Verification of Fitness to Drive* form stating that he/she is not suffering from any mental or physical disability or disease such as to prevent the operator from exercising reasonable control over a motor vehicle. Any cost incurred is the responsibility of the operator.
9. The vehicle may not be used to transport more persons than can be seated on the permanently mounted seats facing forward without interfering with the operator. The driver and all passengers must wear seatbelts at all times.
10. When no other transportation option is available other than transportation by a private vehicle then any student under the age of eight (8) must be restrained in compliance with Wisconsin Statutes in a safety restraint system that is appropriate to the child's age and size (i.e. car seat, booster seat) that meets the standards established by the DOT.
11. Drivers must refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances (any drug or medicine, including prescription medication, which may impair the ability of the driver to perform safely) for a period of not less than 24 hours prior to operating a vehicle for school purposes.

12. Any individual who has been approved on a yearly basis to operate a motor vehicle must report to district administrator or designee in writing within three (3) days of the occurrence of any accident/moving violation/driving under the influence, etc. in which the individual was involved as the operator of a motor vehicle, regardless of whether the individual was issued a uniform traffic citation or charged with any offense or any suspension or revocation of the individual's operating privileges.
13. Employee must provide proof of insurance. The minimum acceptable limits of liability (including uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage) on the vehicle should be \$100,000/\$300,000.
14. The District Administrator has the authorization to modify or exempt any of the above requirements if the situation warrants.

Legal Ref: 121.555 – Wisconsin Statutes

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