

TRANSPORTATION

The Governing Board desires to provide for the safe and efficient transportation of students to and from school as necessary to ensure student access to the educational program, promote regular attendance, and reduce tardiness. In determining the extent to which the district will provide transportation services, the Board shall weigh student and community needs against the cost of providing such services.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)

(cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)

(cf. 3541.1 - Transportation for School-Related Trips)

(cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)

(cf. 5116.1- Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Board economical, environmentally sustainable, and appropriate means of providing transportation services. The district's transportation services may be provided by means of a joint powers agreement, a cooperative student transportation program, or a consortium, as permitted by law.

No student shall be required to be transported for any reason without the written permission of the student's parent/guardian, except in emergency situations involving illness or injury to the student pursuant to Education Code 35350 or the evacuation of students as necessary for their safety.

Transportation Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a transportation plan in consultation with classified staff, teachers, school administrators, regional local transit authorities, local air pollution control districts and air quality management district, parents/guardians, students, and other stakeholders. (Education Code 39800.1)

The transportation plan shall be presented to and adopted by the Board at an open meeting, with the opportunity for in-person public comment, and shall be updated annually by April 1. (Education Code 39800.1)

The transportation plan shall include descriptions of the following: (Education Code 39800.1)

1. The transportation services offered to students
2. How transportation services will be prioritized for low-income students, students in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and any of grades 1 to 6, inclusive
3. The transportation services accessible to students with disabilities and homeless children and youth, as defined pursuant to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11301)
4. How unduplicated students, as defined in Education Code 42238.02, will be able to access available home-to-school transportation at no cost

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

Transportation Contracts

(cf. 3510 - Green School Operations)

The Board may purchase, rent, or lease vehicles; contract with a common carrier or municipally owned transit system; contract with responsible private parties including the parent/guardian of the student being transported; and/or contract with the County Superintendent of Schools. (Education Code 35330, 39800, 39801)

In contracting for transportation services, the district shall comply with all applicable laws related to bids and contracts. (Education Code 39802-39803)

Expenses and Fees

(cf. 3311 - Bids)

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)

In lieu of providing transportation in whole or in part, the district may pay the student's parents/guardians either their actual and necessary expenses in transporting the student or the cost of the student's food and lodging at a place convenient to the school. In either case, the amount of the payment shall not exceed the cost that would be incurred by the district to provide for the transportation of the student to and from school. (Education Code 39806-39807)

The Board may charge a transportation fee to parents/guardians of transported students in accordance with Education Code 39807.5 and BP/AR 3250 - Transportation Fees.

(cf. 3250 - Transportation Fees)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

Safety and Monitoring

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to promote safety for students and employees traveling in district vehicles, including school buses.

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

The Superintendent or designees shall determine which district vehicles will have global positioning system (GPS) devices installed on the vehicle. The use of GPS devices is to protect district property, ensure proper use of district vehicles, improve driver and passenger safety, and monitor driving times, mileage, routing efficiency, and inventory control.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

Employees who routinely operate district vehicles will acknowledge/agree that they are aware of the GPS devices and understand that the employee's whereabouts may be monitored by the district. This acknowledgement/agreement will be obtained from current employees who routinely drive district owned vehicles, and from new employees at the time of initial employment.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure the qualifications of bus drivers and related staff employed by the district, provide for the maintenance and operation of district-owned school buses and other equipment, and ensure adequate facilities for equipment storage and maintenance.

(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35330 *Excursions and field trips*

35350 *Authority to transport pupils*

39800-39860 *Transportation, especially:*

39800 *Powers of governing board to provide transportation for pupils to and from school; definition of "municipally owned transit system"*

39801 *Contract with County Superintendent of Schools to provide transportation*

39802-39803 *Bids and contracts for transportation services*

39806 *Payments to parents in lieu of transportation*

39807 *Food and lodging payments in lieu of transportation*

39807.5 *Transportation fees*

39808 *District transportation of private school students*

41850-41854 *Allowances for transportation*

41860-41862 *Supplemental allowances for transportation*

45125.1 *Criminal background checks for contractors*

52311 *Regional occupational centers, transportation*

GOVERNMENT CODE

3540-3549.3 *Educational Employment Relations Act*

PENAL CODE

637.7 *Electronic tracking devices*

VEHICLE CODE

2807 *School bus inspection*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

14100-14103 *Use of school buses and school pupil activity buses*

15240-15343 *Allowances for student transportation, especially:*

15253-15272 *District records related to transportation*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13

2025 *Retrofitting of diesel school buses*

COURT DECISIONS

Arcadia Unified School District et. al. v. State Department of Education, 2 Cal. 4th 251 (1992)

Policy

adopted: April 14, 1997

revised: October 29, 2019

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VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California