

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION IN PRIVATE VEHICLES

FILE: EEAG

TITLE: Transporting Students to and from Field Trips/Student Activities in Private Vehicles

POLICY:

- (1) If transportation is provided outside the State of Florida, students shall be transported by either common carriers who are in the business of providing public transportation for a fee or by a car or minivan leased/rented from a licensed rental car company provided the trip and the use of the vehicle and driver is authorized by the student's parent/guardian. In such instance, the following shall apply:
 - (a) The number of students transported in a vehicle shall not be greater than the number for which the vehicle was designed to carry;
 - (b) Each student shall be seated in an appropriate seat;
 - (c) Each student shall be required to use the vehicle's occupant crash protection system;
 - (d) The insurance of the owner of the vehicle shall provide primary coverage in case of an accident; and
 - (e) Each student's parent or guardian shall give prior written consent (Authorization and Request for Transportation of Student in Privately Owned Vehicle and Release of Liability Form) to the transportation of a student in a privately-owned vehicle and a release of the School Board, its officers, employees and agents from any and all liability relative to the student being in any accident involving the vehicle.

- (2) If transportation is provided within the State of Florida, passenger cars or multi-purpose passenger vehicles ("MPV") as defined in 49CFR, Part 571, of the Federal Code for transporting eight students or less, may be used or leased. In such instance, the following shall apply:
 - (a) The number of students transported in a vehicle shall not be greater than the number for which the vehicle was designed to carry;
 - (b) Each student shall be seated in an appropriate seat;

- (c) Each student shall be required to use the vehicle's occupant crash protection system;
 - (d) If the vehicle is leased, it shall be leased in the name of the school district or the individual school; and
 - (e) Each student's parent or guardian shall give prior written consent (Authorization and Request for Transportation of Student in Privately Owned Vehicle and Release of Liability Form) to the transportation of a student in a privately-owned vehicle and a release of the School Board, its officers, employees and agents from any and all liability to the student being in any accident involving the vehicle.
- (3) If transportation, as a practical matter, is not available through the use of a district-owned vehicle, each student's parent or guardian, as the case may be, shall be responsible for the transportation or making transportation arrangements for their child to and from the applicable activity of which the student participates.
- (4) If transportation, as a practical matter, is not available through the use of a district-owned vehicle, and the student's parent or guardian, as the case may be, has consented in writing for a school volunteer or school employee to transport the student to and from the applicable activity of which the student participates, the following shall apply:
- (a) Each student's parent or guardian shall give prior written consent (Authorization and Request for Transportation of Student in Privately Owned Vehicle and Release of Liability Form) to the transportation of a student in a privately-owned vehicle; and
 - (b) By providing prior written consent hereunder, each student's parent or guardian, as the case may be, releases the Board and OCPS from any liability in connection with transportation provided in a non-district owned vehicle for the purposes as described in this policy.

SPECIFIC AUTHORITY:

Sections 1006.21; 1006.22; 1006.24;
1006.25, Florida Statute
State Board of Education Rule: 6A-3.0171

ADOPTED: 01/17/12