

<p align="center"><b>DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b> Danbury, Connecticut</p>	<p align="center"><b>REGULATIONS</b></p>	
<p align="center"><i><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></i></p>	<p>Reviewed: 11-25-08</p>	<p>Policy No. 7-760  Page</p>

**DEFINITIONS**

***School transportation*** – the procedure, program or fully effective and implemented plan, by which a pupil is conveyed, at public expense, whether by use of publicly owned equipment or by contract to or from his/her residence to or from the school in which he/she is enrolled by the Board.

***Who may ride*** – only students and personnel designated by the Administration. High school students whose babies are enrolled in the infant/toddler center may use school transportation services to bring their child to the center if they have a pass from a building administrator. The parent shall provide seat restraints, in compliance with state statutes.

***Walking distance*** – 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 a point at the entrance of the school, or the bus pick-up area, or a safe entrance to the school grounds located within one hundred feet of the school building entrance; or the route from the point on the public thoroughfare nearest the residence to the school bus (or vehicle) embarkation point (bus stop) established by the Board.

***One mile walking distance*** – a reasonable measurement of a route to be traversed extending from the point of measurement at least 5,280 feet, but no more than 5,380 feet.

***Grade K***–kindergarten or a school program appropriate to a beginning pupil under age 6.

***Raised walk area*** – a side walk or a portion of the right of way at least three feet wide, usually parallel to the traffic lanes, which may be paved or unpaved, distinguished by some elevation above the street pavement level and marked by curbing, drainage ditch, grass area, fencing, apart from and independent or any white line safety markings along the street pavement.

***Walking route*** – the most direct route that a child could normally be expected to travel between his or her residence and the school to which he or she is assigned by the Board.

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<p><i><b>Hazard</b></i> – exposure to molestation considered morally degrading or physically harmful, or an unsafe thing or condition or a possible source of peril, danger, duress or difficulty presenting a problem the solution of which is beyond the ordinary capability of a child of given age or attainment or including specifically the following.</p> <p>A. A walking route along a street or road having an adjacent or parallel raised walk area is a hazard where any one of the following conditions exist along said walking route:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Speed limits for motor vehicles are in excess of 40 miles per hour and there are no pedestrian crossing lights or crossing guards or other safety provisions at points where pupils must cross said street or road in going to and from school;</li> <li>2. The usual or frequent presence of any nuisance, such as open manholes or construction; snow plowed or piled on the raised area making such areas unusable; loading zones where delivery trucks are permitted to park in alleys; commercial entrances and exists where cars are crossing raised walk areas at speeds in excess of 5 miles per hour, and the like, including such nuisance which is dangerous or attractive to normal children;</li> <li>3. For pupils under age 10, or enrolled in grades K through 3, absence of pedestrian crossing light, or crossing guard where three or more streets intersect, and at street crossings where there are no stop signs or crossing guards and the average traffic could, during the time that children are walking to and from school, exceed 60 vehicles per hour, and</li> <li>4. For pupils over age 10, or enrolled in grades 4 through 12, absence of a traffic light, or stop sign, or crossing guard at street crossings where three or more streets intersect, and have an average traffic count which exceeds 120 vehicles per hour during the time that children are walking to and from school.</li> </ol> <p>B. Any walking route along a street or highway which has no raised walk areas will</p>		

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<p>be deemed a hazard in the following circumstances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For pupils under 10 or enrolled in grades K through 3 in all cases:</li> <li>2. For pupils over age 10 or enrolled in grades 4 through 12 only where any one or more of the following exist: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. There are “line of sight” obstructions which render the street or highway along which the walking route is located safely negotiable by motor vehicles only at speeds under 15 miles per hour, as determined by the Danbury Police Department, Traffic Safety Division. A “line of sight” obstruction is a hill, curve, structure, land form, planting, snow bank, or other object obscuring the line of sight of drivers of vehicles operating on the traveled portion of the street or highway so that such drivers cannot see clearly for a distance of 200 feet where the posted speed limit is 30 miles per hour or less and 275 feet where the posted speed limit is more than 30 miles per hour.</li> <li>b. Line of sight visibility, together with posted speed limits, do not permit vehicles traveling the speed limit to stop within the braking/stopping distances considered safe by the Danbury Police Department, Traffic Safety Division.</li> <li>c. The traffic count along said street or highway is more than 60 vehicles per hour during the time that pupils are walking to and from school.</li> <li>d. A nuisance of the type described in 7A(2) above is present along that portion of said street or highway that constitutes the child’s walking route.</li> <li>e. The roadway available to vehicles, when plowed free of snow accumulation, does not have a minimum width of 20 feet.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>C. Any walkway or path in an area adjacent to and parallel to railroad tracks shall be considered a hazard unless suitable physical barriers along the walking route are present, and fixed between the tracks and the walking route (such as guard</p>		

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<p>railings). Tracks that carry moving trains during hours that pupils are walking to or from school will be deemed hazardous unless the following conditions exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A crossing guard is present; or,</li> <li>2. An automatic control bar is present at crossing used by children under age 10, or a bar, or red flashing signal light is operational when the crossing is used for pupils over 10.</li> </ol> <p>D. A lake, stream, culvert or waterway will be deemed a hazard in the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier fixed between the walking route and the water.</p> <p>E. Any street, road, walkway or path designed as a walking route for school pupils which passes through an area which has a history of aggressive acts or molestation resulting in actual or threatened physical harm, or moral degradation, during the hours when pupils ordinarily walk to and from school.</p> <p>F. A situation shall be considered hazardous wherein pupils under the age of twelve, or enrolled in a grade Kindergarten through grade six, are required to walk to or from school or to or from a bus stop at any time prior to one-half hour before sunrise or one-half hour after sunset.</p> <p><b><u>DUTIES OF THE SUPERINTENDENT</u></b></p> <p>In order to effectuate and administer the Board’s policy on Transportation 7-760, it shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools or his or her designees to manage and supervise the School transportation services and, in connection therewith, to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Determine eligibility for school transportation section 10-186 of the general statutes and in accordance with these guidelines.</li> <li>2. Establish school transportation route and designate locations for pick up points (bus stops).</li> <li>3. Develop, circularize and enforce codes of behavior for those children who are transported to and from school via school transportation.</li> </ol>		

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Develop procedures for responding to requests pertaining to matters of school transportation or other school accommodations.</li> <li>5. Call upon Board members to meet regarding school accommodation issues at such times as may be necessary to effectuate Policy 7-760 and these guidelines in accordance with Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes.</li> <li>6. Give due consideration to requests for extension of school transportation service.</li> <li>7. Perform all other duties and responsibilities related to the furnishing of school accommodations by school transportation or otherwise in a manner not inconsistent with Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes or these guidelines.</li> </ol>												
<p><b><u>ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS</u></b></p>												
<p>Regard for the safety of students is a basic element of this policy. Consistent with the foregoing, all students all walk to school with the following exceptions:</p>												
<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th align="left"><u>GRADE</u></th> <th align="left"><u>DISTANCE FROM SCHOOL</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Kindergarten</td> <td>more than ½ mile</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-5</td> <td>more than ¾ miles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6-8</td> <td>more than 1 ½ miles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9-12</td> <td>more than 2 miles</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>GRADE</u>	<u>DISTANCE FROM SCHOOL</u>	Kindergarten	more than ½ mile	1-5	more than ¾ miles	6-8	more than 1 ½ miles	9-12	more than 2 miles
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<p>Students shall walk to the nearest bus stop up to the above maximum distances.</p>												
<p>Students will be eligible for school transportation if one of more the following criteria is present and remains uncorrected by the Board:</p>												
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The walking route does not exceed the limits set forth above, but presents a hazard, and the hazard is not eliminated or abated by the Board.</li> <li>2. A student is physically handicapped, or mentally retarded, or a pre-school student.</li> </ol>												

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<p><u><b>ELIGIBILITY FOR OUT OF TOWN TRANSPORTATION</b></u></p> <p>Any resident of Danbury under 21 years of age who is not a high school or vocational school graduate and who is attending a State Vocational School shall be eligible for transportation.</p> <p>A student who is placed for special education reasons in either a public or private educational institution out of town shall be provided the necessary transportation.</p> <p><u><b>BUS STOPS</b></u></p> <p>Bus stops will be located at frequent intervals so as to reduce student congestion at each stop and so that no student will be required to walk to or from his or her residence to or from a bus stop more than the maximum distances established by the Board.</p> <p><u><b>AUTHORIZATION FOR CHANGE IN BUS ASSIGNMENT</b></u></p> <p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children may ride buses other than their own only at the convenience of the school district in accordance with bus safety regulations. A written request must be submitted by the parent 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.</li> <li>2. Parents who receive approval for out-of-district placement with the school system under <i>Policy 7-117 Attendance-Areas</i> may request access to existing transportation routes under the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a written request is submitted to the Transportation Coordinator for review, and approval is authorized by the Director of Finance and Support Services</li> <li>b. the access requested is for a bus on an existing route</li> </ol> </li> </ol>		

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<p>c. the pick-up/discharge location is an existing authorized one</p> <p>d. the bus has empty seats</p> <p>e. no deviations are requested on the designated route for this access</p> <p>f. the access is for one school year only</p> <p><b><u>APPEALS</u></b></p> <p>Any parent, guardian, student at majority, or any agent or officer whose duty it is to compel the observance of the laws concerning attendance at school may appeal any administrative decision concerning school transportation in the following manner:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss the manner with the Director of Finance and Support Services or his/her designee.</li> <li>2. If no resolution is reached with the Director of Finance and Support Services, discuss the matter with the Superintendent of Schools.</li> </ol> <p>Any parent, guardian, student at majority, or officer whose duty it is to compel the observance of the laws concerning attendance at school, who believes that the Superintendent, or his/her designee, is not furnishing school accommodations by transportation or otherwise, to himself or herself or to his or her child in a 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.</p> <p>Upon receipt of such request, the Board shall hold a hearing within 10 days following receipt of the request.</p> <p>The hearing before the Board will be in compliance with the provision of Section 4-177 to 4-180 inclusive of the Connecticut General Statutes.</p> <p>A stenographic record or tape recording shall be made of such hearing.</p>		