

	<b>MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY</b>			
	<b>STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES</b>	Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Number:	Date Adopted:
			SS 7	4/79
	Revision Adopted:			
	1/95; 3/01			

The safety and welfare of student riders shall be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. School buses shall be maintained and operated in accordance with state law and State Board Rules and Regulations.

The major purpose of school transportation is to transport pupils who live one and one-half miles or farther from school in an efficient, safe, and economical manner. When space permits and a bus is on its direct approach to and from the school, students who live closer than one and one-half miles to their assigned school may be provided transportation service. Those students who live the farthest from school will be given first priority when space is a consideration. A secondary purpose is transportation for academic field trips in direct support of the curriculum.

Goals for management of school transportation shall be:

1. Adequacy: Does the program provide both necessary and sufficient transportation to and from school and for all other school programs?
2. Safety: Does the scheduling and operating of the program take into consideration hazards, potential dangers to pupils, and all appropriate safeguards?
3. Efficiency: Is the program operated in an efficient manner possible after considering the constraints imposed by the criteria of adequacy and safety?

The Supervisor of Transportation shall conduct studies of bus routes in the system in order to provide the safest, shortest routes which will get all children to school in the most economical way. Routes shall be arranged in such a way as to equalize as nearly as possible the length of routes and bus loads and to provide for the full use of buses. These routes shall become the official routes. Arrangements shall provide each child transportation to school within the prescribed time limits. Bus routes shall begin no earlier than one and one-half hours before school opens, and children shall not be in transit from school more than one and one-half hours after dismissal.

The transportation program shall be monitored daily by the principals and the Supervisor of Transportation. The official bus route shall not be extended or changed by anyone until the proposed change has been reported to the Supervisor of Transportation and the change has been checked to determine whether it meets all rules and regulations pertaining to safety, efficiency, and economy.

When children are being transported to their approved destination, they shall not be put off the bus until reaching their destination unless the appropriate documentation is provided the driver to transport the child to another destination.

All buses and other vehicles owned and operated by the Board shall be given safety inspections by the assigned driver and the transportation supervisor on a regular basis. The transportation supervisor shall develop and maintain a safety inspection record which shall be filled out and signed by the individual who conducts the inspection. In addition, all buses shall be available for regular safety inspections. Any defects noted by either the regular school or state inspection shall be remedied immediately.

All accidents, regardless of the damage involved, must be reported to the Supervisor of Transportation, including incidents in which any part of the bus rubs, scrapes, or touches any other object or vehicle. The Supervisor of Transportation shall be responsible for submitting all records and required reports to state and local agencies.

#### FIELD TRIPS

School buses are available for use when the trip is directly related to the planned instructional program. However, use of the bus during the school day must not interfere with the regular transportation program.

Annually, the Supervisor of Transportation will provide information related to costs, procedures in arranging for use of buses, and other pertinent information.

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#### Legal References:

T.C.A. 49-6-2101 through 2113  
TRR/MS 0520-1-5-.01(4)