

Revised Transportation Policy – Second Revision

WOONSOCKET EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STUDENT TRANSPORTATION POLICY

P-4.9 PURPOSE: to determine eligibility for busing within the Woonsocket Education district.

POLICY:

- A criterion for school bus use is set by the district and determined by grade level and distance of travel to school.
- **To be eligible for a school bus, the distance from a students home to school must be:**
 - 2.25 miles from WHS**
 - 1.75 miles from WMS**
 - 1.0 mile from all Elementary schools**

***NOTE:** Bus stops are approximately 2 blocks for Special Education elementary students and 4 blocks for Special Education secondary students.

***WAIVERS:**

- Waivers may be sought based upon a medical condition which would put the student in danger, were they classified as a walker and walked both to and from school.
- Approved medical waiver would allow a student to use an **existing bus stop only**. It is not for the formation of a new bus stop, and it is **not for door to door, or home to school service**.
- The Woonsocket Education Department does the best it can under difficult scheduling staffing and financial conditions to provide busing to as many students as possible. It is however, **a parent's responsibility** to take an active role in getting their children to the bust stop and picking them back up from the bus stop. If the child is unable to do this on their own due to age, maturity, behavioral issues or medical issues then the parents or designated care giver such as family, friend, alternate parent or babysitter needs to escort them.
- Transportation to or from a **daycare center** can be arranged, only if it is on a bus route from the student's school, and if the arrangements **will be consistent for the entire school year**.
- The Woonsocket Education Department **does not provide transportation to a babysitter**.
- All changes and additions will take a minimum of four (4) school days to implement.

PROCEDURE:

- 1. For any changes in address, a change of address form which is available at the school must be completed in advance.**
- 2. To receive a waiver, a student will need a letter from their PCP OR SPECIALIST faxed directly to the school. The letter must state the following:**
 - a) The specific illness and the risks posed by walking to and from school.

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- c) Any precautions or medications that will be needed during the bus ride.
 - d) An **ACTION PLAN MUST BE DETERMINED** should complications of the illness present during the bus trip to and from school or at school (**eg. Asthma Action Plan & Emergency Action Plan**).
 - e.) Any modifications that need to be made during school while in class, physical education, sports eligibility, recess and at lunch must clearly indicated by the HCP. Any medications that may be needed must be available in the nurse's office or with the student.
3. The parents of a child in a special needs program with a written IEP stating that busing is necessary, need to contact the Special Education Department at the McFee Administration Building. This includes any change of address and additions.
4. Any conflicts or concerns regarding medical issues for busing will be review by the Nursing Chairperson and/or WED Medical Director.