

POLICY RELATING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS

CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The major purpose of the Wachusett Regional School District transportation services is to transport eligible students to and from school in an efficient, safe, and economical manner.

BID SPECIFICATIONS

The Wachusett Regional School District shall contract for transportation services. Contracts will be awarded on a competitive bid basis. The District shall make every effort to encourage the participation of Wachusett Regional School District vendors with successful transportation experience. Contractors will be held responsible for the safe operation of school buses and will comply with all applicable state laws and regulations, including but not limited to:

1. Specifications for school bus design and equipment
2. Inspection of buses
3. Qualifications and examinations of bus drivers
4. Driving regulations
5. Small vehicle requirements, if applicable
6. Insurance coverage
7. Adherence to local regulations and directives as specified in bid contracts
8. A driver training program in coordination and cooperation with District staff
9. Bus storage and primary vehicular maintenance within the Wachusett Regional School District with verification process of payment for all property and excise taxes
10. Any bus 7 or more years old shall be inspected and signed off by the District annually

POLICY RELATING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS

CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (continued)

BUS SCHEDULE

The District, working with the bus contractor and other appropriate administrators, will be responsible for determining bus schedules, routes, stops, and all other matters relative to the transportation program.

BUS DRIVER EXAMINATION AND TRAINING

The District will reserve the right to approve or disapprove persons employed by the bus contractor to drive school transportation vehicles.

1. Courtesy and care will be required of all drivers.
2. Each driver will file with school officials a medical certificate and proof of freedom from tuberculosis.
3. No person under 21 years nor over 70 years of age and only persons of high character will be allowed to operate school buses.
4. Only persons who are properly licensed by the state and have completed the annual driver training program will be permitted to drive school buses.
5. The contractor will furnish the District with a list of names of drivers and their safety records for the last three years.
6. In case of any change of bus drivers, the contractor will notify school officials as soon as possible.
7. The contractor, prior to employment of new drivers, will provide the District with a written CORI check for each driver recommended.
8. The District will approve, in writing, all candidates for driver positions, prior to hiring.

POLICY RELATING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS

CONTRACT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (continued)

9. The driver training program shall address new, experienced and substitute drivers. The trainers of the program shall be approved by the District. School-based educational personnel shall be used wherever possible.

10. The District may require drug testing of bus drivers and/or other personnel under employ of the contractor, at the District's discretion, within the laws of the Commonwealth.

LEGAL REFS.: Highway Safety Program Standard No. 17
M.G.L. 90:7B; 90:8A 1/2

First Reading: 01/23/95
Second Reading: 02/13/95

Amendment First Reading: 06/10/02
Amendment Second Reading: 07/08/02

Re-Amendment First Reading: 03/14/05
Re-Amendment Second Reading: 04/11/05

Re-Amendment First Reading: 09/10/07
Re-Amendment Second Reading: 10/09/07

WRSDC Policy 7222