

USE OF ALTERNATIVE VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS

751.5

Although transportation by school bus is the District's primary method of providing student transportation services, the Director of Finance and Operations, or his/her designee, may approve the District's provision of student transportation services via the use of a vehicle other than a school bus, provided that the use of such vehicles is done in a manner that is consistent with state law and applicable Board policies.

Under no circumstances shall the District authorize a District employee or volunteer to provide student transportation using an alternative vehicle that (1) is manufactured to accommodate more than nine passengers, in addition to the driver; (2) does not have a sufficient number of permanently-mounted and forward-facing seats for each passenger; (3) was manufactured more than 20 model years ago; or (4) is a homemade, street modified, or replica vehicle.

Alternative Vehicles Owned or Leased by a School Bus Contractor

The District's contract with any school bus contractor(s) shall account for the possible use of vehicles other than school busses that are owned (or leased) and operated by the school bus contractor. The contract shall specifically address how the contractor and the District will ensure compliance with applicable state law, and with any additional requirements (e.g., upward adjustments to minimum insurance levels) that the District determines are in its best interest. If any District contract with a school bus contractor does not address the possible use of alternative vehicles as required by this paragraph, the contractor shall not use alternative vehicles to provide student transportation services on behalf of the District until a written addendum to the contract is executed.

District Employees Authorized to Drive an Alternative Vehicle to Transport Students

Specific administrative procedures shall be developed which shall be used to authorize a District employee to drive a privately-owned, District-owned, or District-leased motor vehicle to transport students within the scope of the individual's employment. No District employee who has not been authorized to do so under the District's procedures shall use a motor vehicle to transport students in carrying out, or in connection with, any job-related duty.

Non-Student, Adult Volunteer Drivers who Use a Personal Vehicle and Receive No Compensation

Specific administrative procedures shall be developed which shall be used to authorize a non-student volunteer driver who is at least 18 years old to transport students under the conditions that (1) the driver uses a specifically-identified,

privately-owned vehicle; and (2) the driver is not receiving any compensation from the District for his/her volunteer services.

This policy is not intended to apply to any situation where (1) a parent or guardian is providing transportation solely to his/her own child(ren) by means selected entirely by the parent or guardian; or (2) students and/or parents or guardians otherwise make their own, voluntary arrangements for transportation (i.e., the transportation in question is not District-provided transportation).

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

Section 110.075	[motor vehicle inspection]
Section 121.52	[vehicle, operator and driver requirements]
Section 121.53	[school bus insurance]
Section 121.54	[transportation by school districts]
Section 121.55	[methods of providing transportation]
Section 121.555	[alternative methods of providing transportation]
Section 346.89	[inattentive driving; includes prohibitions related to the use of electronic devices while driving]
Chapter 347	[equipment of vehicles]

Wisconsin Administrative Code

Trans 305	[standards for vehicle equipment]
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