

## **TRANSPORTATION OF SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS**

### **Background**

Transportation for special needs students is to be provided where possible balancing the needs of the student with the requirement to safely transport all students to school. Requests for the transportation of a special needs student shall be considered on the individual circumstances of the student and the collective circumstances of the bus and bus route the special needs student rides.

### **Procedures**

1. Special needs students that are mobile and exhibit a high level of self control may be transported on the same basis as a regular passenger.
2. Special needs students that are not mobile or do not exhibit a high level of self control may be transported to and from school provided that:
  - 2.1 An evaluation of the student be completed by a special needs consultant to provide information to assist with a decision.
  - 2.2 An Individual Education Plan (IEP) be completed; such plan to include specific program needs that relate to riding independently.
  - 2.3 The District Principal, Student Services is responsible for directing specific modifications that may be required to attend to the specific needs of the student.
  - 2.4 The bus driver, parents, Principal and special needs aide keep an open line of communications regarding the needs and progress of the student.
  - 2.5 Where the student is secured through a harness or locking mechanism (as in the case of a wheelchair) that appropriate arrangements be made by the bus driver to release the student and assist them to safety in the case of an emergency.

Reference: Sections 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

Approved: August 15, 2021

Revised: