

ATTLEBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS  
School Committee Transportation  
Policy

File: EEA

The safe and secure passage of students from home to school, and from school to home, is the School Committee's chief priority with regard to student transportation. In order to provide for such safety, and to ensure the efficient administration of the school district's transportation services, the school committee adopts Policy EEA.

The Superintendent or his/her designee, working with the bus contractor and other administrators as necessary, will be responsible for establishing bus schedules, routes, stops, and all other matters related to the administration of transportation services.

All Kindergarten and First Grade Students will be eligible for district-funded transportation.

All other Elementary students living at least 2.0 miles from their assigned schools will be eligible for district-funded transportation. Elementary students living between 0.5 and 2.0 miles from their assigned school will be eligible for transportation under a fee-for-service condition and on a seat available basis.

Middle School students in Grades 5 & 6 living at least 2.0 miles from their assigned schools will be eligible for district-funded transportation.

All other Middle School students living at least 1.0 miles from their assigned school will be eligible for transportation under a fee- for-service condition and on a seat available basis.

High School students living at least 1.0 miles from their assigned school will be eligible for transportation under a fee-for-service condition and on a seat available basis.

Calculation of Route  
Distances

The distances contemplated by Policy EEA are pedestrian distances from the home address to the school address. The district will maintain a record of the distances for each address in their transportation routing system.

Length of  
Routes

All transportation routes to and from the Attleboro Public Schools will be scheduled for 45 minutes or less. The 45-minute window will run from the initial bus stop pick up to the arrival at the school, and from the departure from the school to the final bus stop drop-off, excluding unforeseen or extraordinary circumstances.

Waivers and  
Exemptions

Students eligible for free and reduced lunch shall be exempt from the fees imposed by Policy EEA. The Superintendent may grant other such waivers as required by the educational needs of individual students, and other applicable school committee policies.

Exceptions for safety purposes to walker designations (Grades 2-6) and transportation eligibility (Grades 7-12) may be made in consultation with the Transportation Office and the Attleboro Police Department. Changes to the list of addresses on the "Safety Exemption" list kept by the Transportation Office must be approved by the School Committee. Walker Exceptions are entitled to Free transportation and Eligibility Exceptions are entitled to Fee-For-Service transportation.

### Kindergarten Transportation

It is the policy of the Attleboro School Committee to provide district-funded transportation to all Kindergarten students attending the Attleboro Public Schools. It is the parent and/or guardian's responsibility to ensure their child is safe to and from the bus stop and while waiting for the bus. In the event a parent and/or guardian is not at the bus stop to receive their child at the designated times, the procedure to be followed is:

1. The parent and/or guardian must have an individual they deem responsible to accept the Kindergarten student at the designated bus stop.
2. If a parent, guardian, or responsible individual is not at the bus stop when the bus arrives in the afternoon, the Kindergarten student will be returned to their school and placed in the ABACUS program at the school, if the program is available. The parent and/or guardian will be billed for the time their child is being supervised by ABACUS or the Administration/ designated staff member at the ABACUS daily rate.
3. If there is no one at the school to receive the student, the Kindergarten student will then be taken to the Superintendent's Office.
4. If there is no one at the Superintendent's Office to receive the student, the Kindergarten student will then be taken to the Police Department.

### Special Education Transportation

It is the policy of the Attleboro School Committee to provide district-funded transportation to special education students attending the Attleboro Public Schools who are authorized to ride special needs buses because of their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

The standard level of service for children who ride special needs buses is curb-to-curb service. This includes delivery to and from the home or caregiver side curb to the school loading zone. In cases where appropriate, it is the responsibility of the parent and/or guardian to ensure that the student is securely buckled in the seat/car seat prior to the vehicle door being shut.

If there is no one at the school to receive the student, the special education student will then be taken to the Superintendent's Office.

If there is no one at the Superintendent's Office to receive the student, the special education student will then be taken to the Police Department.

This Policy will be reviewed each April and amended if deemed necessary. This process will conform to the guidelines of Policy DBC-E: Budget Timeline to allow for accurate budget preparation.

#### Legal References:

- M.G.L. [40:5](#); [71:7A](#), [B](#) and [C](#); [71:37D](#); [71:48A](#); [71:68](#); [71:71A](#); [71B:4](#); [71B:5](#); [71B:8](#); [74:8A](#); [76:1](#); [76:12Bi](#); [76:14](#)