

## **PARENTS/GUARDIANS TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES**

The following guidelines are presented in order that all parents/guardians will have a complete understanding of their responsibilities and vested interests in the public school transportation program:

Cooperation and understanding between all parties involved (parents/guardians, students, drivers, and school officials) is necessary in meeting the need for safe and efficient busing. It is recommended that parents/guardians review the student regulations with their children to answer any questions which might arise.

Buses are not required or expected to operate over poorly maintained roads, unaccepted streets and roads, or areas in which inadequate turn-around exist.

Bus stops are arranged yearly on the basis of non-interference with the flow of vehicular traffic (wherever possible), concentration of students, availability of waiting space, and most economical use of time. Requests for door-to-door pickup and delivery cannot be honored because of the undue amount of time that such a procedure would incur.

Buses are not to be stopped in transit for the purpose of removing or admitting a student. Buses will only stop at designated bus stops.

Parents/guardians are responsible for having students at the bus stop on time, at the same time ensuring proper conduct. Students should be at the bus stop at least five minutes before the normal arrival of their bus.

Occasional variations in bus schedules must be expected due to weather conditions, equipment breakdowns, etc. Parents/guardians should use their discretion in length of time students should wait.

It is essential that students be clothed adequately for seasonal conditions.

It must be understood that bused students must obey all transportation rules and procedures. Failure to do so will cause denial of the privilege of transportation. The laws of the Commonwealth do not require transportation if the student's conduct jeopardizes the health and safety of the other passengers.

Except in extreme situations, parents/guardians will be notified in advance when the student's conduct is such that temporary or permanent expulsion from the bus is being considered.

In cases of expulsion from the bus, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to see to it that the student gets to and from school. Failure to do so could result in legal proceedings in accordance with the attendance statutes of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Superintendent recognizes his/her obligation to hear presentation of opposing viewpoints and will allow time for students or parents to appeal his/her decision.

Habitual bus offenders and/or their parents/guardians will be called before the Superintendent if corrective action at the principal/parent/guardian level has not proven successful.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for the supervision of their child/children at the bus stop prior to pickup and after drop-off.

Parents/Guardians of kindergarten students must be present at the bus stop at drop-off.