USE OF SCHOOL BUSES

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I. Use of Buses

The School Board permits the use of school buses for purposes other than transporting children to and from school for the regular school hours with prior approval of the Superintendent/Designee and in accordance with regulations pertaining to extracurricular activities, athletics, and field trips. No school bus may be used for personal purposes outside of the approved exceptions in the Transportation Operations Manual.

The School Board may enter into agreements with nonpublic schools within the division to provide student transportation to and from school and for school field trips in accordance with division regulations. The School Board may also enter into agreements with any third-party logistics company, its appropriating body, or any state agency or any federal agency established or identified pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 3001 *et seq.* providing for the use of the school buses of the Division by such company, body or agency for public purposes, including transportation for the elderly or private purposes, except that such third-party logistics company may not use the school buses to provide transportation of passengers for compensation or for residential delivery of products for compensation. Each agreement shall provide for reimbursing the School Board in full for the proportionate share of any and all costs, both fixed and variable, incurred by the School Board for the use of such buses. Each such agreement must require the third-party logistics company, appropriating body, or agency to supply insurance on the school bus that meets the minimum requirements in Virginia Code §22.1-190. The third-party logistics company, appropriating body, or state or federal agency, shall indemnify and hold harmless the School Board from any and all liability that the School Board may incur arising out of the use of such buses.

II. Custody of Buses

School bus drivers may be granted permission to park buses at their homes when the Superintendent/Designee determines such action to be feasible, economical, or practical.

III. Replacement Schedule

A replacement schedule for all buses shall be established. For "regular" diesel buses, the replacement schedule is at least 12 years of age or has accumulated at least 215,000 miles. For special education diesel buses, the replacement schedule is at least eight (8) years of age or has accumulated 215,000 miles. For a Type A bus, the replacement schedule is at least eight (8) years or has accumulated 185,000 miles. For electric school buses, the replacement schedule is at least ten (10) years or has accumulated 200,000 miles. Regardless of the age of the bus, it shall be replaced if it is in need of a one-time repair considered unjustified in terms of expected useful life after the repair. Buses retired under this program may be auctioned or sold with the approval of the School Board.

IV. Transportation Expenses

Transportation expenses for field and athletic trips and other supplemental transportation services will be billed to schools and shall be reimbursed to the Transportation Department. For more information about field trips, refer to policy IICA, *Field Trips*. Expenses for summer school buses and extracurricular activity buses operated outside of the approved school calendar shall also be reimbursed to the Transportation Department.

Adopted: July 1, 1993
Amended: December 12, 1994; January 27, 2011; January 13, 2022; October 24, 2024; October , 2026
Reviewed: February 26, 2004; May 12, 2016; October 13, 2022
Equity Review: January 13, 2022

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-176; 22.1-176.1, 22.1-182. 22.1-190.

Cross Ref.: EEAB, *School Bus Scheduling and Routing*
EEAC, *School Bus Safety Program*
IICA, *Field Trips*

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