

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Routes and Services (Transportation)

Right to Transportation

Student Eligibility - Students shall be expected to walk up to the following distances to school or to designated transportation pick-up point unless the Superintendent or the Board determines that the walk is unduly hazardous:

K-3	Three quarters of a mile
4-6	One mile
7-12	One and one-half miles

The standards for a finding that a walk is “unduly hazardous” are set forth in “Requests to Extend Bus Routes” contained within this policy.

Extra Transportation - Transportation shall be provided without charge to students, within limits of the school budget, for athletic contests and other student activities, if approved in advance by the Principal concerned.

Use of Private Vehicles

Private cars, carrying students as passengers, may be used on school sponsored trips only by permission of the building Principal or Superintendent and completion of the Driver’s Insurance Liability Form. (cf. 3541.44 Privately Owned Vehicles)

Requests to Extend Bus Routes

Neither the Superintendent nor the Board shall extend a bus route to accommodate someone's personal convenience.

Requests to extend a bus route or add or relocate a bus stop may be made to the Superintendent in accordance with state statutes.

In the event of a request to the Superintendent, the Superintendent shall investigate the situation, meet with the aggrieved party and attempt to resolve the situation.

In the event the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the Superintendent's resolution, the aggrieved party may request a hearing before the Board which will be conducted in the manner prescribed by state statutes.

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Routes and Services (Transportation) (continued)

In making its determination, the Board will consider whether the situation is unduly hazardous and shall be guided by the following criteria:

Any street which has a sidewalk or raised walk parallel to the street shall not be considered hazardous;

On streets where there are no sidewalks, for children in grades K-6, the route shall be considered unduly hazardous if two of the following conditions exist; and, for children in grades 7-12, when three of the following conditions exist:

- (A) a line of sight obstruction caused by a hill, curve or structure or other object which requires vehicles to travel at reduced speeds and in which the sight distance is less than two hundred feet;
- (B) any streets with posted speed limits in excess of 30 MPH which have no traffic control devices where those streets must be crossed (such devices include, but are not limited to, traffic lights, stop signs, crossing guards);
- (C) the width of the road is less than eighteen feet and there is no suitable level area off the road for walking;
- (D) the history of vehicular accidents is found to be excessive and creates a hazard for pedestrian children;
- (E) the school schedule is such that children in grades K-6 must walk the route prior to forty-five minutes before sunrise or more than forty-five minutes after sunset;
- (F) children with permanent physical handicaps at any grade shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, not withstanding the above criteria;
- (G) a history of molestation or attack exists.

The Board of Education may grant an exception to any provision of this policy wherein a peculiar condition or combination of conditions renders such condition a hazard based upon reasonable judgment.

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Routes and Services (Transportation) (continued)

If the Board determines that it is dangerous for a bus to travel a particular area or street, then routes will not be established in that area or street even if the previously listed conditions exist. Under no condition will routes be established on private roads unless:

- (A) all owners of the road consent to such routes; or
- (B) the private road is constructed or maintained in accordance with the standards for the construction and maintenance of similar roads owned by the Town of Canton;
or
- (C) the road is the required width for a regular school bus; or
- (D) the road is maintained in a manner which is considered by the Board to be safe for the buses and children.

After determination, findings shall be voted upon and issued in accordance with state statutes.

Temporary Alteration of Bus Routes

If in the judgment of the driver, road conditions present a hazard as a result of weather, washouts, floods, construction, accidents, etc., the route may be altered until the situation has been corrected.

(cf. 3541 - Transportation)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-97 Transportation to vocational schools.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-220c Transportation of children over private roads.

10-233a and 10-233c Suspension of students.

Policy adopted: September 23, 1999

CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Canton, Connecticut