

3540 Transportation

The Governing Board desires to provide for the safe and efficient transportation of students to and from school as necessary to ensure student access to the educational program, promote regular attendance, and reduce tardiness. In determining the extent to which the district will provide transportation services, the Board shall weigh student and community needs against the cost of providing such services.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Board economical, environmentally sustainable, and appropriate means of providing transportation services. The district's transportation services may be provided by means of a joint powers agreement, a cooperative student transportation program, or a consortium, as permitted by law.

Transportation Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a transportation plan in consultation with classified staff, teachers, school administration, regional local transit authorities, local air pollution control districts and air quality management districts, parent/guardians, students, and other stakeholders. (Education Code 39800.1)

The transportation plan shall be presented to and adopted by the Board at an open meeting, with the opportunity for in-person and remote public comment, and shall be updated annually by April 1. (Education Code 398001)

The transportation plan shall include descriptions of the following: (Education Code 398001)

1. The transportation services offered to students.
2. How transportation services will be prioritized for low-income students, students in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and any of grades 1 to 6, inclusive.
3. The transportation services accessible to students with disabilities and homeless children and youth, as defined pursuant to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11301).
4. How unduplicated students, as defined in Education Code 42238.02, will be able to access available home-to-school transportation at no cost.

Transportation Contracts

The Board may purchase, rent, or lease vehicles; contract with a common carrier or municipally owned transit system; contract with responsible private parties including the parent/guardian of the student being transported; and/or contract with the County Superintendent of Schools. (Education Code 35330, 39800, 39801)

In contracting for transportation services, the district shall comply with all applicable laws related to bids and contracts. (Education Code 39802-39803)

Expenses and Fees

In lieu of providing transportation in whole or in part, the district may pay the student's parents/guardians either their actual and necessary expenses in transporting the student or the cost of the student's food and lodging at a place convenient to the school. In either case, the amount of the payment shall not exceed the cost that would be incurred by the district to provide for the transportation of the student to and from school. (Education Code 39806-39807)

3540 Transportation (continued)

The Board may charge a transportation fee to parents/guardians of transported students in accordance with Education Code 39807.5 and BP/AR 3250 - Transportation Fees.

No student shall be required to be transported for any reason without the written permission of the student's parent/guardian, except in emergency situations involving illness or injury to the student pursuant to Education Code 35350 or the evacuation of students as necessary for their safety.

Safety and Monitoring

The district may install a global positioning system (GPS) on school buses and/or student activity buses in order to enhance student safety and provide real-time location data to district and school administrators and parents/guardians.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure the qualifications of bus drivers and related staff employed by the district, provide for the maintenance and operation of district-owned school buses and other equipment, and ensure adequate facilities for equipment storage and maintenance.

In addition, no charge shall be made for any transportation of a student with a disability whose individualized education program includes transportation as a related service necessary to receive a free appropriate public education. (Education Code 39807.5)

The Board shall certify to the County Superintendent of Schools when an increase or decrease to the fees are approved that the district has levied fees in accordance with law and that, in the event that excess fees have been charged, the fees have been reduced and excess fee revenue eliminated. (Education Code 39809.5)

When approved by the Governing Board, the district may charge transportation fees for students traveling to and from school. (Education Code 39807.5)

With Board approval, the district may also charge transportation fees for:

1. Participants in a community recreation program offered pursuant to Education Code 10900-10914.5. (Education Code 10913, 39835)

Board Approved:

April 13, 2023
August 8, 2019
July 29, 2010
September 27, 2007
April 15, 2004
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