

**Regulation**

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PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES

In recommending arrangements for student transportation to and from school- related activities, the superintendent shall consider the type of activity, the total number of students involved, and the availability of appropriate vehicles. The Saddle River Board of Education does not authorize the transportation of students by volunteers or staff in privately owned vehicles and does not maintain a volunteer driving pool.

The Saddle River Board of Education directs the superintendent to propose the creation of a volunteer driving pool if groups of students too small in number to make economical use of Type I or Type II vehicles may be transported in privately owned passenger vehicles driven by qualified school personnel, state employees and parents/guardians. Prior board approval shall be required before a volunteer driving pool is created. The following rules shall apply to any board approved volunteer driving pool:

Volunteer Driver Pool

- A. By September 30 of the school year, superintendent will send home to parents/guardians a form on which to indicate willingness to provide school-related transportation. The form should be accompanied by a brief explanation of the pattern of liability under New Jersey's No Fault Law.

The form shall include spaces for:

1. Name, address, phone number and willingness to drive;
2. Driver's license number and statement that the driver has received no moving violations;
3. Make, model, year and mileage of car to be used;
4. Insurance coverage and name of carrier;

Forms are to be returned to the homeroom teacher and forwarded to the superintendent or his or her designee to be sorted and collated.

- B. By September 30 forms will be put in each teacher's and administrator's mailbox.

Form will include:

1. Name, address, home phone, willingness to drive;
2. Driver's license number and statement that the driver has received no moving violations;
3. Make, model, year and mileage of car to be used;
4. Insurance coverage and name of carrier;
5. Times at which teacher/administrator will be available;
6. Activities supervised or in which teacher/administrator has an interest;
7. Restrictions, such as number of children or grade levels the staff member is willing to transport.

Forms will be returned to the superintendent or his or her designee to be sorted and collated.

Transportation of Students by District Personnel as Part of Assigned Duties

A card shall be kept on file in the superintendent's office for each employee who transports students in a passenger vehicle as part of his/her assigned duties. Information on the card shall include:

- A. Name, address, home phone number;
- B. Driver's license number and statement that the driver has received no moving violations;

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- C. Make, model, year and mileage of car to be used;
- D. Insurance coverage and name of carrier.

NOTE: FOR A NEW JERSEY REGISTERED VEHICLE TO BE OPERATED AT ALL, THE OWNER MUST PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE IN A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF \$1,000,000 COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT PER OCCURANCE.

Approval of Activities; Supervision of Students at Activities

- A. The board shall approve all interscholastic competitions, field trips, and special away-from-school activities, either as a listing or item by item as they occur. Provisions of this section will depend on the district's policy;
- B. At the time of approval, a determination should be made as to whether volunteer transportation will be used;  
  
All volunteers must be from the superintendent's master list.
- C. Supervision of students at activity:
  - 1. When the students will become part of a larger group on arrival at their destination, the driver will deliver them to the faculty member or other chaperone in charge, who will be responsible for the students at the activity. If the driver is one of the faculty members or chaperones, he/she will assume those duties on joining the group.
  - 2. When the driver is the sole adult, he/she shall remain with the group for the entire period.

Students shall be informed that the driver has the same authority over them as a member of the teaching staff, and that appropriate penalties will be imposed for infractions of the district's code of conduct or student discipline policy.

Selection of Volunteer Drivers and Assignment of Students

When the superintendent or his or her designee has confirmed the date of the event and the number of students, he/she will attempt to secure drivers to accommodate them.

In assigning students to volunteer drivers, the superintendent or his or her designee will take into account:

- A. Grade level and number of students if driver has expressed limitations;
- B. Location of student residences in relation to driver if students are to be delivered home.

Safety in Pickup, Transit and Drop-off

When the superintendent or his or her designee has assigned the students to their drivers, he/she shall prepare a sheet for each driver listing the students, the pickup time and place, the activity time and place, directions to the activity, arrangements for drop-off, arrangements for supervision of the students at the activity, arrangements for picking up the students after the activity, instructions as to time and place of final drop-off, and a copy of the district's policy/regulations on student bus conduct. The sheet shall include emergency telephone numbers at which the driver can reach an administrator of the school, and, if possible, other persons at the activity, should it become necessary.

- A. Pickup place will in most instances be the school. It will be the responsibility of the students' parents/guardians to deliver the students to the assigned pickup place at the proper time. Parents/guardians are responsible for supervision of their children until the driver arrives, unless the children are being loaded during school hours, in which case appropriate faculty will be responsible until the vehicle departs. When children

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are being transported in more than one private vehicle or a combination of district and private vehicles, the faculty member in charge of the expedition is responsible for accounting for all the children. No child shall enter a vehicle on the traffic side;

- B. In transit, the driver shall keep the doors locked and the windows at a safe level. All students shall use seat belts. General rules of student conduct will be those of the district's regular policy on bus conduct.

On arrival at the activity, the driver will drop off the students according to directions. In no event shall a student exit from a vehicle on the traffic side.

On leaving the activity, the driver shall be sure he/she has all of the same children he/she started with. At activities where faculty and chaperones are in charge of a large group, the faculty member in charge shall be responsible for ensuring that all students are accounted for at time of departure.

- C. Final drop-off place shall usually be the school. Parents/guardians will have been informed of the time of the drop-off, and will be responsible for providing transportation home for their own child. In the event that students are to be delivered to their door, the driver should wait until the student has entered the outer door before driving off.

Reimbursement

All tolls for highways, bridges, tunnels, etc., will be reimbursable on presentation of a receipt. Parking charges are reimbursable on presentation of either the lot ticket or a voucher, if a meter was used. The board may reimburse for mileage on volunteer trips depending on the budgeted allotted the trip.

Entrance fees for activities may be reimbursed if the financial resources are available.

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