

## **EEAE – SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROGRAM**

The safety and welfare of student riders will be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. Safety precautions will include the following:

1. Children will be instructed as to the proper procedure for boarding and exiting from a school bus and in proper and safe conduct while aboard.
2. Emergency evacuation drills will be conducted at least two times a year (Oct.-May) to acquaint student riders with procedures in emergency situations.
3. All vehicles used to transport children will be inspected on a regular schedule to see that they meet applicable safety regulations.
4. All drivers will be screened before employment for physical condition, proper license, and experience. The prior driving record of each driver will be checked for drug and alcohol or other convictions and a criminal records check must also be completed.
5. The board authorizes use of video and audio surveillance on school buses to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all students while riding on school buses. Use of such surveillance will be in accordance with Policy ECAF, Audio and Video Surveillance on School Buses.
6. In the event an audio or video recording is used as part of a student discipline proceeding, such video may become part of a student's education record. If an audio or video recording does become part of a student's education record, the provisions of Policy JRA and associated policies shall apply. In such cases, the Superintendent is authorized to consult with the District's legal counsel. Videos not containing evidence will be erased or destroyed immediately following resolution of the issue.
7. The School District or independent contractor will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of school buses and will make these requirements known to bus drivers. It will also abide by school board policy and cooperate with local safety officials in formulating and accomplishing its school bus safety program.

### Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

ESD Policy JRA (Student Education Records and Information)

ESD Policy JRA-R (Student Records & Information Administrative Procedures)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99)

RSA 189:6A (School Bus Safety)

RSA 200:40 (Emergency Care)

Handbook (Referenced in Student and Personnel Handbook)

APPROVED/REVISED: June 14, 2007, August 20, 2009, May 19, 2011

PREVIOUS POLICY: September 25, 2000 "School Bus Safety Program"