

Administrative Procedure 341

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND DIVERSE ABILITIES

BACKGROUND

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to get their children to and from school. The School District recognizes that in certain circumstances, students with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities may be unable to make their own way to and from school or take public transportation. The District is committed to supporting the transportation needs of such students. Once a parent has explored all options, requests for transportation for a student with Disabilities or Diverse Abilities shall be considered based on the student's individual circumstances.

PROCEDURES

1. All requests for transportation assistance for students with disabilities and diverse abilities will be managed by the Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education.
2. For an assignment on the bus, students must be in catchment or have been placed out of catchment by the district. Priority will be given to students with Ministry of Education low incidence designations that have significant mobility challenges (wheelchair, walker, etc.). Depending on seat availability, consideration will be given to students with Ministry of Education low incidence designations and one or more of the following criteria:
 - Students who have been identified with profound physical or cognitive disabilities
 - Students requiring complex supports (Medical assistance /Nurse support)
3. Siblings of students being transported by the district do not qualify for transportation even when they attend the same school.
4. The bus will not operate when in the opinion of the driver, carrier/contractor or School District Superintendent, road conditions are such that it would be unsafe to do so.
5. Subject to fiscal and logistical constraints, it is the objective of the district to maintain travel time and waiting time at school for students with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities at a reasonable limit.
6. Transportation of students with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities shall be subject to annual review.

Students Requiring a Child Safety Vest

In circumstances in which students require the use of a child safety restraint the following procedures apply:

1. Restraint harnesses are provided by the School District for students who need to be restrained because of safety issues related to their disability or diverse needs.
2. The vest provides support by helping hold the wearer upright and has been safety tested to meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
3. Students will be assessed by the School District Occupational Therapist in consultation with parents.
4. Vests are the property of the School District.

SD No. 40 (New Westminster)

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