

**COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT****POLICY:    **TRANSPORTATION******DATE ADOPTED:** June 20, 2023**POLICY STATEMENT**

Where it is reasonable and necessary to enable a student entitled or required to attend an elementary or a secondary school within the Colchester School District (District), the District may furnish transportation on public roads to students who reside within the District. The District may also provide transportation to non-resident students as authorized by the Colchester School Board (Board).

Except where mandated by federal and state law, the provision of transportation is a privilege and it is not required or mandated for most students. The District will provide transportation as required under IDEA-B (special education) law, federal §504 law and the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act when such transportation is necessary to provide a Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE).

**OPERATION OF BUSES**

The District uses an outside contractor to provide general bus transportation. The contractor shall be responsible for the hiring and training of qualified bus drivers and establishing bus routes on public roads. Driver availability from the contractor may prohibit access to buses. In addition to school-day transportation, the District is committed to providing full or partial transportation for approved field trips and for approved extracurricular activities, such as athletic events. The operation of regular bus routes to and from school will take priority over the use of buses for field trips and extracurricular activities.

**NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS**

In most circumstances, the student or the student's parent or guardian is responsible for providing transportation to and from school when the student does not reside in Colchester. The administration will develop transportation procedures establishing the circumstances in which non-resident students may be transported by the District.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Superintendent or their designee will develop a comprehensive set of procedures outlining eligibility of ridership, guidelines for the establishment of routes, camera and video recording requirements, and specialized transportation accommodations.

Last Reviewed: February 4, 2003

Date Warned: June 2, 2023

First Reading: June 6, 2023

Second Reading: June 20, 2023