

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION
Walkers and Riders/Bus Scheduling and Routing

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall establish bus schedules, routes, and stops in order to transport children to and from school as safely and expeditiously as possible. This assignment of duty notwithstanding, it shall remain the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure the safety of their children between residence and bus stop and during the time before students board the bus at the bus stop and after the students alight from the bus at their destination. The same responsibility applies to the transportation of students on so-called "late runs" scheduled after the "regular runs" associated with dismissal at the close of the regular school day; and to the transportation of students on so-called "early dismissal runs" arranged on abbreviated school days.

Bus stops shall ordinarily be located so that a student in grades K-5 may be expected to walk up to 0.5 mile between the bus stop and home address (defined for this purpose as the point of contact between residential property and street); and a student in grades 6-12, up to 0.8 mile. Bus stops on main arteries and heavily traveled roads shall be established so that children will not have to cross those roads in order to board the bus. A student may be expected to walk more than the specified distance to or from a bus stop if he/she lives on a "dead end" road or "cul-de-sac" where turning a bus without backing up would be difficult. The availability of sidewalks and the presence and location of hazardous conditions will be taken into consideration in the determination of bus stop locations. Additionally, bus stops for children being transported home from after-school activities shall be established on principally traveled roads only.

Appeals regarding bus routes and bus stops should be addressed in writing to the Transportation Director. Appeals unresolved at that level should be addressed in writing to the Director of Finance and Operations. Final appeals may be made in writing to the Superintendent. The School Committee and Administration may from time to time refer questions about safety to the Weston Police Department Safety Officer, whose input may at their discretion be considered as part of the dispute resolution process.

Adopted: November 21, 2011

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 71:68