STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Weston School Committee provides a comprehensive student transportation program to support the education of students enrolled in its schools, which is intended to promote safe, efficient travel between home and schools; schools and field-trip sites; and schools and athletic contest sites. This program includes daily home-to-school bus service, transportation for students participating in the METCO program, and buses for school-sponsored field trips and athletic contests. The transportation program also provides an alternative afternoon bus option (a bus other than a student's regularly assigned bus), subject to capacity, student safety, operational feasibility, and an execution of a waiver of liability. .

State law assigns to the School Committee the responsibility to provide transportation services. Weston resident students qualify for bus transportation to and from Weston public schools pursuant to state law (M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 68), i.e., if they are enrolled in grades K-6 and live two or more miles from school as measured along a commonly traveled route; and pursuant to the local option of the Weston School Committee, which provides bus transportation to and from school for all resident students in grades K-12, regardless of distance from Weston public schools. The Committee recognizes that state law excuses the Committee from any compulsion to provide school bus transportation on private ways.

During peak athletic periods, the District may contract with local transportation providers to supplement its capacity. Weston Public Schools may also provide transportation services to other entities on a contractual, year-to-year basis (e.g., Wayland Public Schools, Meadowbrook School of Weston, Weston/Wayland Crew), and such arrangements are subject to change.

To ensure safe and orderly operations, the District will maintain systems and processes to keep accurate bus assignments and ridership rosters, and to manage capacity so that each student assigned to a route has an available seat. Detailed procedures that support these requirements, including request processes for alternative afternoon transportation, are maintained in the Transportation Handbook.

The Superintendent is responsible for establishing and executing transportation regulations in accordance with these policies. The Superintendent may designate the Assistant Superintendent of Technology & Operations and the Transportation Director or other school administrator to direct and supervise specific aspects of the transportation program, including safety; route construction; staff recruitment, training and supervision; as well as procurement of vehicles, supplies, and support or maintenance services. Detailed procedures and expectations (e.g., route design, alternative afternoon bus use,

and student conduct on school buses) are maintained in a Transportation Handbook published by the Transportation Department, which is subject to approval by the School Committee

Adopted November 21, 2011

Revised October 20, 2025

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71; 71B, Various Sections; 76:1