

Student Transportation

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT, recognizes pupil transportation as an integral part of the total school program. The time that children spend on buses is unquestionably an important influence on their physical, mental and moral well-being. Thus, it is essential that services devoted to pupil transportation be adequate as to quality and quantity.

Free transportation to and from school shall be furnished by Archuleta School District 50 JT to those pupils living outside the 1883 original Town site limits of Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Exceptions to this rule may be granted by Board of Education action. A physician's statement must be submitted if health is claimed as the primary reason for exemption. A central elementary school pick-up point is established at the middle school to accommodate those elementary students living within the city limits of Pagosa Springs.

Due to the geographic location of the school district, several types of transportation arrangements are employed to best serve the needs of the students.

All transportation activities will conform to appropriate Colorado minimum standards as prescribed by state regulations and directed by the State Board of Education.

It shall be the duty of the Transportation Director to provide the Board with regular reports and information regarding the efficiency and conduct of the transportation program.

School Owned Buses

All district owned buses shall be under the direct supervision of the director of transportation.

No school bus owned and operated by the school district shall be used for any purpose other than the transportation of pupils engaged in school-connected activities, except by permission of the superintendent of schools or designated agent.

Contracted Vehicles

A written agreement shall be entered into by the Board of Education for contracted transportation.

No school bus under contract with the district shall be used for any purpose other than the transportation of pupils engaged in school-connected activities,

except by written permission of the superintendent of schools or designated representative.

“Small vehicles” are passenger type vehicles that seat not more than nine persons and are used to transport children for activities, field trips, etc. These vehicles shall be equipped with a first aid kit supplied and maintained by the school district and shall include at least one blanket. In addition, small vehicles must meet or exceed Colorado minimum standards governing school transportation vehicles.

Private Owned Vehicles

Commercial transportation may be used for student transportation on activity trips when, in the opinion of the Transportation Director, this is the most practical or only possible method of transporting students. The Transportation Director must have reasonable assurance that the vehicle will be driven by a responsible, properly licensed person in a prudent manner and the vehicle is safe, properly licensed and adequately insured.

The district will pay mileage and expenses for employees representing the school district at conferences and meetings. Requests are to be submitted to the building principal and the superintendent of schools for approval before the conference or meeting is attended.

School employees who use their cars for transportation between schools or for approved school business during the regular school day will be reimbursed for expenses. This type of reimbursement is for school employees who have responsibilities assigned in more than one building. Reimbursement will be made on the actual mileage involved at the current federal rate.

Special needs should be discussed with the superintendent of schools and the director of transportation.

The district may submit to the voters the question of whether to impose a mill levy increase for the payment of excess transportation costs in accordance with state law. If the mill levy increase is approved, the revenues shall be deposited in the transportation fund.

The district shall waive any transportation fee resulting from such approval by the voters for any student eligible for reduced price or free lunches as determined by federal regulations.

Adopted: December 10, 2002
Revised: September 9, 2003
Revised: September 14, 2021

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(a) (*hold real property in name of district*)
C.R.S. 22-32-113 (*transportation of pupils and special election provisions*)
C.R.S. 22-32-114 (*transportation by parents of own children*)
C.R.S. 22-51-101 *et seq.* (*Public School Transportation Fund*)

CROSS REFS.: DBGA, Budget Referenda
DEA, Funds from Local Tax Sources
EEA subcodes, (all relate to the district's transportation program)
EFC, Free and Reduced Price Food Services
JFBA, Intra-District Choice/Open Enrollment
JQ, Student Fees, Fines and Charges
LBD*-R, Relations with District Charter Schools (Procedures for Establishment, Review, Renewal, Revocation and Closure) - Regulation