

Administrative Procedure 553

Pre-School Children Riding on Contracted School Buses

Background

There are occasions when the Division and its transportation contractors agree to allow bus drivers to bring their pre-school children with them in the school bus when driving a bus route. The Division will not compromise the safety of the driver or the children when establishing these agreements. This administrative procedure will define the terms and conditions associated with this privilege and will assist the Division and its contractors with bus driver recruitment and retention.

Procedures

1. Terms and conditions

Pre-school-age children of school bus drivers who meet the following criteria may be granted the privilege of accompanying the parent while on-duty on the bus route:

- 1.1 Each child must be older than one year of age and weigh more than 9 kg (20 lbs.).
- 1.2 Each child must be capable of sitting upright by himself when supported in an approved child safety restraint system, and must be capable of walking to and from the bus. The provision of an approved child safety restraint system is not the responsibility of the Division.
- 1.3 The contractor is responsible to ensure that any child safety restraint system mounted in a bus meets Provincial standards.
- 1.4 Each child must be capable of acceptable bus behavior by not distracting the driver or setting a different standard than other students are required to maintain.
- 1.5 Each child must be free from any physical or emotional condition that might be aggravated by the bus ride.
- 1.6 The school bus route assigned must have enough available seats to accommodate the pre-school child(ren).
- 1.7 The contractor must apply in writing to the Aspen View Transportation Department for permission to carry up to a maximum of two of the driver's pre-school children.
- 1.8 The contractor/driver must agree in writing (Appendix A553) and that Agreement is to be kept on file by the Aspen View Transportation Department for the period of time identified in each request.
- 1.9 This privilege may be denied to any bus driver who does not provide adequate care and custody of their pre-school age child(ren).
- 1.10 The granting and continuing of this privilege is the Transportation Coordinator's decision based upon these stated conditions.

- 1.11 Pre-school children must be in the presence of the parent while on School Division property.
- 1.12 While on the bus, pre-school children must remain seated at all times.