

POLICY

It is the policy of the Upper Grand District School Board to provide eligible students with a quality transportation service that is safe and efficient through Service de transport de Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services (STWDSTS). In accordance with the Education Act, the provision of transportation by the Board is permissive and may be revoked at the Board's discretion.

Administrative Detail

1. The authority to transport students shall be in accordance with the Education Act.
2. Service de transport de Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services (STWDSTS) shall be responsible for implementing this policy in consultation with the appropriate Superintendent, and in accordance with the Policies and Procedures of STWDSTS.
3. All vehicles transporting students shall be owned and maintained in accordance with the (Ontario) Highway Traffic Act, the Public Vehicles Act, and all Ministry of Transportation regulations.
4. This policy shall be administered in conjunction with the Policies and Procedures of STWDSTS, the Ontario Code of Conduct, Board policies #213 Code of Conduct, #508 Educational Field Trips, #501 Out of Area Attendance, and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA).

A. GENERAL

The Board considers the safety of students to be of paramount importance and will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that all aspects of the transportation service provided by STWDSTS comply with the appropriate Acts, Regulations and safety standards. The Board will cooperate with Provincial and Local Police in all matters related to school bus safety.

B. ELIGIBILITY FOR TRANSPORTATION

1. To be eligible for transportation to his/her assigned school, a student must:
 - a) be a resident student who is registered in and attending a school operated by the Board, or a student for whom the Board is responsible to provide transportation under an agreement with another Board or agency, and
 - b) reside in the Transportation Zone for his/her assigned school. These zones will be established by STWDSTS using the following Maximum Walking Distance:

Grade Level	Maximum Walking Distance in Urban Areas
Kindergarten to Grade 1	1.6 km + or - .1 km.
Grade 2 to Grade 6	2.4 km + or - .1 km.
Grade 7 to Grade 8	3.2 km + or - .1 km
Grade 9 to Grade 12	3.5 km + or - .1 km

2. No student in grade 4 to grade 12 will be required to walk more than 1.2 km. from the intersection of his/her driveway and the road to his/her pick up point.

3. a) Whenever possible, the amount of time spent aboard a bus by students shall not exceed:

JK – Grade 645 minutes
Grade 7 – Grade 1260 minutes

- b) The length of bus trips is calculated based on “normal” traffic conditions, but does not take into account any anomalies due to external factors such as traffic accidents (involving other vehicles) and inclement weather.
- c) The length of the bus trip is an operating procedure for students attending their home school. Students transported outside of their home school boundary may require a longer bus trip.

C. EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS

All transportation for Educational Field Trips is governed by Board Policy # 508 Educational Field Trips.

D. STWDSTS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

In addition to this policy, the Policies and Procedures of the STWDSTS shall be followed. (web site: www.stwdsts.ca).