



NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO
Student Services Consortium



TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURE	NWOSSC 105
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105 VISIBLE PARENT PROGRAM	Date: September 2011
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Statement and Rationale	In the interest of safety, all Junior & Senior Kindergarten, identified special education programs and specific special education students must be accompanied to and from the designated bus stop by the parent/guardian or an approved adult or student, eleven (11) years of age and in grade 6 or higher.
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Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents/Guardians must accompany and meet the above students at their designated bus stop(s). 2. <u>After School</u>: Approved parent/guardian will approach the door of the bus and request release of the JK/SK student they are collecting. Once the driver has paired the student with the appropriate parent/guardian, all other students may exit the bus. If the Parent/Guardian is not with the child in the morning, the student may be picked up however the driver will advise the base. The bus operator will then contact the school or the Consortium who will then in turn follow up with the parent/guardian. 3. If the student is not met after school, the driver will radio the bus operator to advise them that the visible parent is not there and that the bus will be returning to the school with the child. 4. If communication is not available with the school, the driver will wait for several minutes until the bus operator contacts the Consortium. 5. The Consortium will contact the principal or designate and/or parent/guardian and determine the whereabouts of the parent. 6. If possible, the child will be returned to the school. 7. If this happens more than once with the same child, in the interest of the child's safety, bussing privileges may be suspended and the parent will be responsible for
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Reference to Policy	Reviewed: November 2011, June 2014 April 2016 Next Review: 2019
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	<p>transportation.</p> <p>8. JK/SK students will be easily identifiable to the driver by a bag tag worn on their backpack for the entire school year. These tags will be provided by the Consortium. The student bag tags change colour annually so the drivers and school staff are aware that a parent/approved person is required to accompany/meet Junior and Senior Kindergarten students to/from the bus stop. Parents are provided with the bag tags and at the discretion of the parent, may provide further information on the back of the tag. Additional information may include the name of the child, the school and the school bus number.</p> <p>It is important to note that while this program is for Junior and Senior Kindergarten Students and specific special needs students, occasions may arise where a driver may feel that a student would be in danger if the student is released from the bus. The driver will exercise common sense and if the driver feels that the student is in danger, may choose to keep the student on the bus. In these rare cases, the driver will radio their dispatcher who will in turn call the Consortium to determine a course of action. Ultimately, the responsibility for students from grade 1 – 12 is that of the parent and this measure will only be taken in extreme or unusual situations.</p>
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