HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: **OPERATIONS**

TITLE: TRANSPORTATION

ADOPTED: June 23, 2004

December 05, 2011 **REVISED**:

	810. TRANSPORTATION
1. Purpose	Transportation for students shall be provided in accordance with law and Board policy.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.2, 23.4 SC 1361, 1362	The Board shall purchase, equip, and maintain vehicles and/or contract for school bus services for transportation of students to and from school at regularly scheduled hours and for field trips and extracurricular activities.
SC 1362	The Board shall provide transportation for students living within the prescribed limits when walking conditions to the school are found to be hazardous by the Department of Transportation.
Title 22 Sec. 23.3 SC 1374	The Board shall transport students with disabilities without regard to distance or hazardous walking conditions.
SC 1361	The Board shall transport eligible resident students who are enrolled in nonpublic schools within the distance prescribed by law.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The school bus driver shall be responsible for the discipline of students while they are being transported.
Title 22 Sec. 23.4	Administration may suspend a student from bus transportation for disciplinary reasons, and the parents/guardians shall be responsible for the student's transportation.
	The Board will appoint a Transportation Director, who will be responsible to the Superintendent.
Title 22 Sec. 23.4	The Transportation Director or designee will annually prepare a transportation schedule for Board review and approval. The transportation schedule shall expire at the end of the school year.
	The Board acknowledges the operational difficulties associated with arranging immediate transportation for students upon their enrollment in the District, or when specific changes are necessary especially at or after the commencement of the school

	 year, and therefore, the Board of School Directors anticipates that it may reasonably take at least five (5) business days, and in some cases up to ten (10) business days, to make the necessary changes to the transportation schedule. While effort will be made to accommodate such changes as soon as possible, parents may be required to make independent arrangements for student transportation until such changes can be reasonably instituted. Following Board adoption, bus stops and transportation routes will not be changed except for reasons of student health, safety or the established needs of the District.
Title 22 Sec. 23.4	The Transportation Director shall have the authority to establish rules and procedures for the safe and efficient transportation of all students transported by the district.
Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.4	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to maintain records and make required reports regarding school transportation.
	The Superintendent, in cooperation with the Transportation Director, shall develop necessary administrative procedures to implement this policy.
4. Guidelines	School Bus and Van Drivers
	All school bus drivers and van drivers employed by a person or firm holding a contract with the district shall be considered employees of that contractor and not employees of the district.
	Reports of Employee Crimes/Child Abuse
	District bus drivers, monitors, or any other personnel with direct student contact, and/or the district's transportation contract carriers shall be responsible to inform the district in writing at the beginning of each school year whether or not they or any of their employees:
	1. Have been charged, subsequent to approval as a district bus driver, with any offense that would bar their employment as bus drivers or contracted service providers.
	2. Were charged with a crime enumerated in the criteria established by law.
	All bus drivers and monitors must comply with the any mandatory background checks, applicable at the time of hire, which presently include those commonly referred to as: Act 34 - Pennsylvania Criminal History Record Check as amended by Act 24 of 2011, Act 151 - Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Record Check, and Act 114 - Federal Criminal History Record Check (fingerprint check). The cost of the background checks will be at the expense of the employee.

	In accordance with provisions of the contract, the Board reserves the right to reject the assignment of a driver employed by the contractor.
	In the performance of their assigned duties, bus and van drivers shall maintain high standards of personal conduct and professional service, be responsible for the proper care and use of equipment assigned to them, and perform their duties according to the primary objective of supporting the educational climate and process for the students attending district schools.
	Regular Routes and Services
	Students will be notified of their assigned bus schedules prior to the beginning of each school year.
	Students are to arrive at their bus stops prior to the scheduled bus arrival time.
	Weather conditions will determine the proper and reasonable waiting time. Parents/Guardians may use their discretion concerning the length of the waiting period for their children.
	Establishment of Bus Stops
	Elementary and secondary students will be required to walk no more than ³ / ₄ mile from their property to the bus stop or school, unless, in the opinion of the Board, a safety condition warrants otherwise.
	Except for locations on roads designated as hazardous, bus stops will be at least ¹ / ₄ mile apart.
SC 1362	The district will comply with all requirements of the Department of Transportation.
	The district buses will not travel into streets or roads terminating in a cul-de-sac or dead end, unless required by state regulations.
	District transportation vehicles will back up during their routes only when alternate routes are not feasible for safety or economic reasons.
	Transportation vehicles will be routed in the most efficient manner consistent with safety and state law.
	Nonpublic school bus stops shall be assigned at the location of public school bus stops.
	Subject to other provisions of this policy, bus stops will be established only in housing plans having loop or through streets, except where provisions are necessary for students with disabilities and other students as mandated by state law.

	Students must board and disembark assigned buses at a bus stop nearest their home unless they have written permission from the building principal or from the Transportation Director in the case of nonpublic or special education students.
School Code 1331, 1361, 1362, 1374, 2541, 2542	
PA Code Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.2, 23.3, 23.4	