

Procedures for the Transportation of Students other than on a Regular Bus Route

1. The Ozark Board of Education concurs with the basic position of the State and understands that the safest and most appropriate way to transport students to and from any event or activity should be in a State approved and inspected school bus with a certified bus driver and this option is, and shall be, the primary consideration for the transportation of students.
2. In a situation where a school bus is not available, or the use of a bus is simply not appropriate, the first consideration should be to use a School Board owned vehicle driven by a Board Employee to transport a single child, and not more than three children. These vehicles will be inspected monthly by Ozark mechanics.
3. In the event that a school bus is not available or appropriate and the use of a school board vehicle is not an option, there will be times when a school board employee will be allowed to transport students in their own private vehicle with the permission of the Superintendent. In such an event, the employee will be required to maintain liability insurance of \$100/300, plus uninsured motorist coverage and medical payments coverage.
4. On some occasions where the above options are not available, student transportation by non-board employees in private vehicles may be appropriate with approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee. The approval of student transportation by a non-Board employee would be rare, but not a total impossibility. A non-Board employee approved to transport a student would need to pass a check of driving history, have auto insurance of \$100/300 liability, uninsured motorist coverage and medical payments coverage. Any student riding with that individual would need specific permission from their parent/guardian to ride in the car.
5. It is recognized that there are some situations where students opt to drive themselves to activities during the school day when the above options are not available or feasible. These activities usually involve instructional internships or dual credit classes. This will be allowed to continue provided the student has parental permission and produces evidence of appropriate insurance and a valid driver's license and executes a waiver/release to the school board. The expectation is that none of these instructional activities will require the student to leave Dale County.
6. Athletic teams that must leave campus to practice or play in a game are expected to travel on a school bus to and from the practice facility or game site. The School Board will pay the transportation mileage cost for this travel, but not the cost of the driver. It is anticipated that at least one coach for the sport will be a certified driver.
7. Any trip, athletic, field, or other, that travels out of state, or more than a distance of 400 miles, one way, will be required to purchase special event insurance for that trip that is in addition to the underlying insurance covering the vehicle used for transportation. The cost for this insurance will be built into the cost of the trip for the students, or paid by the school.
8. All students that are transported for student activities on buses, employee owned vehicles or non-owned vehicles are required to provide evidence that they are covered by some form of health insurance or government assistance such as Medicaid which would provide for the payment of medical expenses over and above any medical payments insurance coverage available from any of the underlying insurance on the vehicles identified above.
9. Any exceptions to the above procedures must be approved by the superintendent. These procedures are subject to change depending on insurance coverage options and legal considerations in the future.