

Adopted: May 14, 2015

Revised:

HARBOR CITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL POLICY No. 5.5.7 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION AND SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish expectations and policies concerning the safe transportation of HCIS students to and from school.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of HCIS to comply with state law regarding student transportation and school bus safety.

III. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Transportation by school bus is a privilege not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or for violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. For a student who is an individual with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, United States Code, title 20, section 1400 et seq., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, United States Code, title 29, section 794, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336, revocation of the student's eligibility to ride the school bus must be consistent with the requirements of those laws.

IV. TRANSPORTATION ELECTION/OPTION

HCIS may, but is not required to, provide transportation to students. Each year HCIS will notify the district in which the school is located and the Department of Education if it will provide its own transportation or use the transportation services of the district in which it is located. At the time a student enrolls in HCIS, the school must provide the parent with information regarding the transportation.

Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) passes will be provided to all students who intend to use DTA services to get to and from school.

If HCIS elects to provide transportation for its students, the transportation will be provided within the geographic boundaries of the district in which HCIS is located. For students who reside outside the geographic boundaries of the district in which HCIS is located, HCIS is not required to provide or pay for transportation between the student's residence and the border of the district in which HCIS is located. A parent may be reimbursed by HCIS for the costs of transportation from the student's residence to the border of the district in which HCIS is located if the student is from a family whose income is at or below the poverty level, as determined by the federal government. The reimbursement may not exceed the student's actual cost of transportation or 15 cents per mile traveled, whichever is less. Reimbursement may not be paid for more than 250 miles per week.

If HCIS does not elect to provide transportation, transportation for students enrolled at HCIS will be provided by the district in which the HCIS is located, according to Minnesota Statutes sections 123B.88, subdivision 6, and 124D.03, subdivision 8. If the district provides the transportation, the scheduling of routes, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of the pupils, and any other matter relating to the transportation of pupils shall be within the sole discretion, control, and management of the district.

V. SAFETY TRAINING & PROCEDURES TO BE DEVELOPED

- A.** If HCIS elects to provide its own transportation for its students, HCIS will provide school bus safety training in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 123B.90-91.

VI. PROCEDURES TO BE DEVELOPED

- A.** *Development of Procedures.* HCIS's administration shall develop and implement comprehensive, written procedures governing pupil transportation safety in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 123B.90-91.
- B.** *Reportable offenses.* A "reportable offense" means misbehavior on a bus that causes an immediate and substantial danger to self or surrounding persons or property. The Executive Director, the school transportation safety director, or other designated school official shall immediately report to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction where the misbehavior occurred if the reporting school official knows or has reason to believe that a student has committed a reportable offense on a school bus or in a bus loading or unloading area. The reporting school official shall issue a report to the commissioner of public safety concerning the incident upon request of the commissioner.

VII. APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

- A.** If HCIS elects to provide transportation for its students, the Executive Director shall designate a school transportation safety director to oversee and implement pupil transportation safety policies. The transportation director shall have day-to-day responsibility for pupil transportation safety.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §124D.10, subd. 16 (Charter school law)
Minn. Stat. §121A.59 (Bus Transportation general provisions)
Minn. Stat. §§123B.90 -.91 (School Bus Safety Training and
Transportation Director)
Minn. Stat. §169.4582 (Reportable Offenses)