

SCHOOL BUS ROUTES

The director of transportation shall conduct studies of bus routes in the district in order to provide the safest shortest routes which will get all children to school in the most economical way. Routes shall be arranged in such a way as to equalize, as nearly as possible, the length of routes and bus loads, and to provide for the full use of buses. Arrangements shall provide each child transportation to school within the guidelines of the state transportation division.

The following procedures will be used in determining bus routes:

1. Safety will be considered above all other considerations
2. State law will apply to all situations
3. Lights will be activated at all times that the bus is in operation
4. School buses will not enter private property except as a safety factor, or turn around
5. Providing and maintaining adequate turn-arounds will be the responsibility of the parents
6. A student must live at least one and one-half mile from the school in order to qualify for transportation
7. Insofar as possible, buses will be approved to go within one-half mile of a student's home, except for kindergarten through grade five as provided below. This statement is interpreted to mean within one-half mile of where the privately owned road and/or driveway intersects with the county or state maintained road. A public road will be considered to be any road established along a section line or one that has been in use by the general public for several years. Any road to which the county or state holds title will be considered public. An easement will not be considered a public road.

The pick up and delivery of students in kindergarten through grade five will occur within a distance of one-fourth mile upon the request of parents and subject to the approval of the administrative staff, provided the pick up/delivery is located on a road considered to be that of the

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county/state and is regularly maintained by the county commissioner/state, with adequate turn-around space provided if necessary. If the road and/or turn-around prove to be hazardous in any aspect, the requesting family will be notified and if, upon notification, the repairs are not made within seven days, the district will be relieved of any responsibility for the pick up/delivery within the one-fourth mile limit. Buses are not to enter private property.

8. Bus routes will be determined by the superintendent and/or transportation director.
9. The school administration retains the right to change bus routes where efficiency is concerned or state law is involved.
10. The transportation director will assign students to buses when there is more than one bus that the student could ride.

When practical, safe, timesaving, and economical, transfers made be made from one bus to another. Bus routes shall not overlap unless absolutely necessary. When more than one bus travels on an arterial highway, each bus shall be assigned a certain portion of the route and all children within this section shall ride the bus to which they are assigned. Only one bus shall cover a particular road unless overloading occurs.

Copies of the official route will be sent to the driver and to the building principals before the opening of school. Copies of all bus routes will be kept on file in the transportation office. The official bus route will not be extended or changed until such proposed change has been reported to the transportation office, and such a change has been checked to determine whether it meets all rules and regulations pertaining to safety, efficiency, and economy.

Buses shall not go off the main route to pick up children unless the distance is one-half mile or more. Children shall not be let off the bus until reaching their destinations.

REFERENCE: 47 O.S. § 12-228
70 O.S. § 9-105