



## NIPISSING-PARRY SOUND STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Section <b>Transportation – Eligibility</b>	Revised July 31, 2012
<b>EL – 001 General Eligibility</b>	
<b>General Statement</b>	<p>The Nipissing-Parry Sound Student Transportation Services (NPSSTS) ensures safety, effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of student transportation to eligible students in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12 through common administrative guidelines which are applied to students of all of its four member boards: <b><i>The Near North District School Board, le Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l’Ontario, the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board, and le Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord.</i></b></p> <p>While the responsibility of transporting students to and from school lies with the parents/guardians, the Education Act S.190 (1) states: “A board may provide for a pupil who is enrolled in a school that the board operates transportation to and from the school that the pupil attends.”</p> <p>School boards are not obligated to provide student transportation but NPSSTS member boards do so for students who qualify within the terms established by the individual boards. Prime considerations in the design and operation of the resultant transportation system shall be safety, efficiency, and economy, concurrently reflecting maximum entitlement to applicable provincial grants. Transportation may be suspended or revoked for any student should their behaviour violate the Code of Conduct or otherwise be unduly disruptive to the provision of transportation.</p> <p><b>The NPSSTS shall plan transportation routes and designated stops with the understanding that the parents/guardians shall see their children safely to and from their school or their designated stop(s), or designate a responsible person to do so. The parents/guardians are deemed to be responsible for their children prior to boarding the school bus or other school purpose vehicle (SPV) in the morning and after they have unloaded from the school bus or other SPV after school.</b></p>
<b>Operating Guideline</b>	<p>The NPSSTS provides all schools and all parents/guardians/students with access to Bus Planner Web (a web-based program) which enables anyone to determine eligibility to school and transportation, based on address and program.</p> <p><b>1. Eligibility by Student’s Address</b></p> <p>A student’s address is the legal and permanent place of residence.</p>



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All students are allowed only one pick-up address and one drop-off address. Students may be picked up and/or dropped off at or near (depending on the designated stop location) addresses other than their residence address provided that:

- a) Any approved pick-up or drop-off addresses are used consistently (i.e. Monday through Friday); and
- b) The location does not extend existing efficient routes.

Addresses provided for transportation purposes (whether residential or other) must be within the school boundary or school program area, defined by the applicable school board, and outside of the walking distance to the school, defined under Item 2 (Walking Distances) of this guideline.

### 2. Eligibility by Walking Distances

The distances measured will be the shortest distance by public road, public sidewalk, or publicly owned and maintained access route between home/childcare/other (as applicable) and school, and shall be measured from where the driveways join the public road. The NPSSTS shall make all measurements for transportation purposes using transportation software with the appropriate municipal maps and physical distance verification as needed.

#### **Elementary Grades:**

Transportation will be provided for:

**Junior and Senior Kindergarten students.** They will be provided door-to-door transportation, where possible and reasonable. Junior and Senior Kindergarten students must be met at their respective stops. Please refer to SS – 006 Kindergarten Students must be Met at Their Stop for further details.

**Grades 1 to 3 students \*** when there is a distance of at least **1.0 km** between their school of attendance and their requested pick-up and/or drop-off location.

**Grades 4 to 6 students \*** when there is a distance of at least **1.6 km** between their school of attendance and their requested pick-up and/or drop-off location.

\* Students may be required to walk up to 500 metres to and from designated stops (please refer to SL – 003 Distance to a Designated Stop Location). Parents/guardians are responsible for determining the appropriate level of maturity required for their child to walk unaccompanied to and from their designated stop



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	<p>and provide accompaniment if they will it is necessary.</p> <p><b>Intermediate and Secondary Grades:</b></p> <p>Transportation will be provided for:</p> <p><b><u>Grades 7 and 8 students</u></b> * when there is a distance of at least <b>1.6 km</b> between their school of attendance and their requested pick-up and/or drop-off location.</p> <p><b><u>Grades 9 to 12 students</u></b> * when there is a distance of at least <b>3.0 km</b> between their school of attendance and their requested pick-up and/or drop-off location.</p> <p>* Students may be required to walk up to 1 km to and from designated stops (please refer to SL – 003 Distance to a Designated Stop Location). Parents/guardians are responsible for determining the appropriate level of maturity required for their child to walk unaccompanied to and from their designated stop and provide accompaniment if they will it is necessary.</p> <p><b>3. Eligibility by Program</b></p> <p>Students who qualify to attend programs outside their home school catchment area, such as Magnet or French Immersion programs, may be transported according to the above eligibility criteria.</p> <p><b>4. Eligibility by Hazard</b></p> <p>The NPSSTS will provide transportation to students when warranted for safety reasons to overcome traffic or other forms of pedestrian hazards. Please refer to SS – 003 Unusually Hazardous Walking Routes for pedestrian hazard evaluation procedures.</p>
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