



Legal References:	<i>Education Act s. 190 (1)</i>
Related References:	<i>Board Policy 6001 - Code of Conduct Board Policy 6008 – Student Discipline Board Policy 6009 – Student Bullying Prevention and Intervention Administrative Procedure 1260 – Student Discipline Procedures Administration Procedure 1620 – Alternative Suspension Program Administrative Procedure 4070 – Responsible Use Procedure for Information, Communication and Collaboration Technologies Administrative Procedure 4260 – Student Transportation Active Transportation Charter (2011)</i>
Effective Date:	<i>February 1998</i>
Revisions:	<i>June 2010, April 11, 2022</i>
Reviewed:	<i>January 16, 2017, March 18, 2019</i>

## 1. Preamble

- 1.1. The *Education Act*, Section 190 (1) states that a school board may provide transportation to and from the school that the pupil attends for:
  - 1.1.1. a resident pupil of the board who is enrolled in a school that the board operates; or a resident pupil of the board who is enrolled in a school operated by another board under an agreement between the boards;
  - 1.1.2. a pupil in respect of whom the Minister pays the cost of education under the regulations; and
  - 1.1.3. a child over two years of age who may, under the regulations, be admitted to a program for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- 1.2. The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) recognizes that although the *Education Act* places no mandatory responsibility on a school board to provide transportation for pupils, there may be existing conditions which warrant transportation for certain pupils.
- 1.3. The WRDSB believes it has a responsibility to provide active and sustainable school travel options to all pupils of the board.
  - 1.3.1. The WRDSB-adopted Active Transportation Charter outlines the principles of safe, comfortable and convenient active modes of transportation.
- 1.4. Student transportation for the WRDSB is planned for and overseen by Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR).

## 2. Student Transportation

- 2.1 The following distance guidelines shall be used to determine eligibility:
  - 2.1.1 For students living in urban municipalities and townships within Waterloo Region, transportation may be provided to students living beyond the following distance to their assigned school:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Distance</b>
Junior and Senior Kindergarten	0.8 km
1- 8	1.6 km
9- 12	3.2 km

- 2.1.2 For students living in rural areas outside urban municipalities and established settlement areas, transportation will be provided to all students in a manner deemed safe and appropriate by STSWR.
- 2.1.3 In some cases, transportation outside the guidelines may be granted for exceptional circumstances (e.g., medical needs, safety hazards). The process to request transportation under these circumstances is outlined in *Administrative Procedure 4260 - Student Transportation*.
- 2.2 Transportation may be withdrawn for violations of the student code of conduct (refer to *Board Policy 6001 - Code of Conduct*).
- 2.3 All transportation measurements will be determined by STSWR and be based on the shortest distance by road, path or walkway from home to school or bus stop, and are subject to reasonable flexibility beyond the guidelines.
- 2.4 Students ineligible for transportation services may be supported through School Travel Planning.
- 2.5 This policy will be implemented in accordance with *Administrative Procedure 4260 - Student Transportation*.