

Statement of Policy

The Board of Education provides transportation services for students identified as having Intensive Needs as defined by the Education Act 1995, 178 (1) at no cost to parents.

Rationale

Transportation is one of the expenditures of the annual budget of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. The Board of Education assumes responsibility for the difference between the funding received from the Ministry of Education and the actual costs of transportation for students identified as having Intensive Needs based on the needs as outlined in the PPP.

Authority

- The Education Act, Section 178(1), 1995

Guidelines

1. Students with Intensive Needs are students who meet the criteria set by the Ministry of Education and who receive intensive and frequent supports to achieve their learning outcomes.
2. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools provides educational programming within an inclusive model in accordance with the criteria of no cost to parents and in consideration of the following principles:
 - Transportation to neighbourhood school or special program as determined by the division
 - Use of group transportation to facilitate inclusion and to support stewardship of financial resources
 - Students meet Ministry of Education Intensive Needs criteria in any of twelve categories
 - Provision for physical disability (temporary or permanent), medical fragility and behavioral challenges
 - Special circumstances such as community based residential placement
 - Access to community-based outings as determined by school based instructional staff and goals of PPP and guided by the Student Services Coordinator.

Procedures

1. Requests for transportation services to and from school are made in consultation with the parent(s) by the school based staff and forwarded to student services coordinators for approval. (Transportation Assistance Request Form)

2. Student Services Coordinators will adjudicate the need for transportation and make recommendations and arrangements based on the following:
 - Consideration for the degree that the disability of the student impacts the student's ability to walk to school with safety
 - Provision for transportation will be made based on incremental levels of support:
 - Group and inclusive transportation options available in that neighbourhood
 - Individual transportation services by cab or by parent when student's behavior or medical condition places the student or others at risk
3. Requests to provide transportation for school outings (access to supplementary activities not available in school environment) are made to the Student Services Coordinators using the Transportation Assistance Request Form. Requests provide clear rationale that demonstrates how that outside activity supports the goals in the student's PPP. Rationale reflects attempts to achieve the same outcome in the school environment, and how time spent in the community warrants time spent away from the learning environment of the school.

References

Transportation Policy for Students with Intensive Learning Needs in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (A policy paper prepared by Joann Simon, Student Services Coordinator)

Date Approved	Dates Amended:
June 19, 2013	
