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## TRANSPORTATION OF SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

### Background

Transportation for special needs students is to be provided where possible balancing the needs of the student with the requirement to safely transport all students to school. Requests for the transportation of a special needs student shall be considered on the individual circumstances of the student and the collective circumstances of the bus and bus route the special needs student rides.

### Procedures

1. Special needs students that are mobile and exhibit a high level of self control may be transported on the same basis as a regular passenger.
2. Special needs students that are not mobile or do not exhibit a high level of self control may be transported to and from school provided that:
  - 2.1 An evaluation of the student be completed by the Director of Student Support Services to provide information to assist with a decision.
  - 2.2 The Director of Student Support Services is responsible for directing specific modifications that may be required to attend to the specific needs of the student.
  - 2.3 The bus driver, parents, Principal and Education Assistant keep an open line of communication regarding the needs and progress of the student.
  - 2.4 Where the student is secured through a harness or locking mechanism (as in the case of a wheelchair), appropriate arrangements are to be made by the bus driver to release the student and assist them to safety in the case of an emergency.

Reference: Sections 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

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