

Roles And Duties Of Employees

Authority of School Bus Drivers

Students transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus. The driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the students while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway, or road. A bus driver shall not require any student to leave the bus en route between home and school or other destinations.

Bus driver shall have the authority to discontinue the operation of school buses whenever the bus driver determines that it is unsafe to continue. (5 CCR 14103)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

Administrative regulations related to bus driver authority shall be made available to parents/guardians, students, teachers and other interested parties. (5 CCR 14103)

(cf. 3516.5 - Emergency Schedules)

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

School Bus Drivers

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all school bus drivers employed by the district comply, at a minimum, with the following requirements for the transportation of students:

1. Possession of a proper license issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles, for the appropriate class of Vehicle Code 12517.
2. Possession of a current Red Cross First Aid Certificate or certified completion of the first aid test given by the California Highway Patrol, or a current first aid certificate issued by the American Red Cross or by an organization whose first aid training program is at least equivalent, as determined by the Emergency Medical Services Authority. (Vehicle Code 12522)
3. Possession of a current medical certificate as required by law. (Vehicle Code 12804)
4. A California special driver certificate valid for driving a school bus, or activity buses as applicable. (Vehicle Code 12517)

All bus drivers shall also be required to attend driver training programs mandated by law and shall be familiar with and adhere to district policies and regulations relating to the transportation of students.

All school bus accidents shall be reported immediately to the California Highway Patrol, the district, and the drivers employer (if other than district). (13 CCR 1219)

School bus drivers shall be subject to drug and alcohol testing in accordance with Governing Board policy and the requirements of federal law.

(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Department of Motor Vehicles within five days whenever any school bus driver has tested positive for drugs or alcohol, is dismissed for a cause related to student transportation safety, or whenever a driver so dismissed has been reinstated. (Vehicle Code 1808.8, 13376)

Responsibilities

The school bus drivers primary responsibility is to safely transport students to and from school and school activities. He/she shall follow procedures contained in the districts transportation safety plan.

The driver shall stop to load or unload students only at school bus stops designated by the Superintendent or designee, or authorized by the Superintendent or designee for school activity trips. (Vehicle Code 22112)

The driver shall activate the amber warning light system, flashing red signal lights and stop arm signal and shall escort students in accordance with Vehicle Code 22112.

The driver shall immediately report all school bus accidents to the California Highway Patrol, the Superintendent or designee, and the driver employer. (13 CCR 1219)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

38046 Drivers of school pupil activity buses

38047 Training in proper actions in event of hijacking

38050 Operating bus in violation of order or regulation or without operator's qualification

38155-38168 Training required to obtain or renew bus driver certificate

39831.3 Transportation safety plan

45125.1 Criminal background checks for contractors

56195.8 Adoption of policies

VEHICLE CODE

1808.8 Dismissal for safety-related cause

2570-2575 Transportation of students

12517 School bus and pupil activity bus driver qualifications; certificates; fees

12517.2 Medical report; physical examination

12522 First aid training for school bus drivers

13376 Driver certificates; revocation or suspension; sex offense prosecution

22112 School bus signals; roadway crossings

25257 School bus; flashing light signal system

25257.2 School bus used for transportation of developmentally disabled person

34501.6 School buses; reduced visibility

34508.5 Investigation of accidents

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

14103 Authority of the driver

14104 School bus driver instructor

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13

1202 General provisions

1219 School bus regulations

1227 School bus stops

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 49

571.222 Federal motor vehicle safety standard # 222

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: June 23, 1994 Fresno, California

revised: January 14, 1999

revised: June 23, 2004