

Transportation of Large Equipment on School Buses

We are providing schools and families with the following School District No. 83 Operational Guideline. This Guideline supports the Motor Vehicle Act Regulations requirements to keep our students safe both to and from school.

1. Any equipment or items smaller than 30 inches (77cm) may be transported if they are kept on the student's lap without impeding the seat of another student, and if carried in an appropriate case.

Examples:

- a. Musical Instrument (in appropriate case)
- b. Ice Skates (in protective canvas bag)
- c. Roller Blades (in protective canvas bag)
- d. Skateboards and Scooters (in protective canvas bag or backpack)

Note: Hockey sticks, skis, poles, snowboards, longboards, large musical instruments, etc. **will not** be transported inside the school bus.

2. Larger items (over 30 inches) used for approved school programs may only be transported after receiving prior approval from the Transportation Office. These items will need to be transported in the exterior luggage compartment under the bus. A pre-approved "safe" bus stop is required in order for this equipment to be safely loaded in the exterior luggage compartment. These items should be in a protective waterproof case. Transportation will not be responsible for damage to equipment

Examples:

- a. Hockey gear
- b. Large musical instruments (ex. trombone, guitar, saxophone, etc.)
- c. Snow boards
- d. Skis, poles and hockey sticks

Note: if a student rides a different bus home which does not meet the above requirements, the items will not be transported. Not all buses are equipped with an exterior luggage compartment.

3. There are a number of unusual items that will require pre-approval from the Transportation Office in order to be transported on the school bus.

Examples:

- a. Pumpkins – small pumpkins may be transported if they are contained within a sturdy canvas bag or backpack. Students need to be able to hold onto the bag/backpack during the trip and safely manage the article while getting on and off the bus.
- b. Class projects - some of these projects are large and difficult to manage safely while getting on and off the bus.

4. The following items **will not** be transported on a school bus: laser pointers, booster seats, weapons, animals, drugs & alcohol, as per Motor Vehicle Act Regulations and District Policy.

Please Note:

It is the Transportation Departments' goal to safely provide as much assistance as possible to support the transportation of equipment for school programs.

It is the Parents/Guardians responsibility to transport any items which are deemed unsafe to be transported on a school bus.