

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: TRANSPORTATION

ADOPTED: March 18, 1996

REVISED: August 13, 2001

OCTORARA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

810. TRANSPORTATION	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>Transportation for students shall be provided in accordance with law and the following guidelines.</p>
<p>2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.2, 23.4 SC 1361, 1362</p>	<p>The Board shall purchase, equip, and maintain vehicles and contract for school bus services for the transportation of students to and from school at regularly scheduled hours and for the transportation of students on field trips and athletic trips.</p> <p>School transportation is an extension of the school program, providing access to educational opportunity for these children residing in the district. The legal responsibility for getting children to and from school safely and economically is the responsibility of the Board of Education. The school Superintendent is responsible for the student safety and efficiency of the system of school transportation. The safety of the passengers is a major objective. The school district's responsibility is to transport the student to and from an assigned home bus stop and the school.</p> <p>The transportation provided is a privilege given to the student. This privilege may be removed for just cause determined by the school district's discipline policy.</p> <p><u>Private and Parochial Schools</u></p>
<p>SC 1361</p>	<p>Pennsylvania School Law, Act 372, mandates that Octorara Area School District shall provide like transportation for all resident students attending private or parochial schools that are situated within ten (10) miles of outside boundaries of the school district.</p> <p>The rules and regulations for private school students shall be the same as for public school students and all discipline infractions shall be resolved by the building principals of the private or parochial school involved.</p>

Transportation services for private school students shall be contracted through the private schools, with individuals; or when applicable, private school students will be transported to the Octorara site via Octorara buses and shuttled to the private school.

Methods of Discipline

Pennsylvania School Laws state that pupils are under the supervision of school authorities during the time spent coming to and returning from school. When pupils are on the school bus, the driver serves in the same capacity as a teacher does in the classroom. The principal has the ultimate responsibility for all bus discipline.

Pupils who have the privilege of riding a school bus shall conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner while going to or coming from school.

The safety of the bus passenger demands that the driver's attention must be on the road and not distracted in any way. The driver must insist on respect and orderliness.

Disciplinary incidents of a minor or major nature are to be referred by the driver in written form as soon as possible to the principal, and the driver should inform the student of the infraction. The principal will communicate the minor or major infraction and disciplinary action to the parent and student. Copies of these communications will be given to the Director of Support Services for distribution to the driver.

Disciplinary referrals are to be reported accurately and in terms of what the driver actually observed and/or serious incidents of which s/he is aware. The principal may consult with the bus driver for further clarification regarding the incident.

School administrators and drivers are encouraged to communicate with each other on school bus matters of mutual interest.

The drivers are to receive in-service training on student management techniques and other transportation related information a minimum of three (3) times per year.

Annually, the rules regarding students bus conduct are to be reviewed with the students. This may be done more frequently if necessary. Rules are also mailed prior to the school year to all students. Parents are urged to review these rules with children.

Each building level has guidelines for handling discipline problems. These guidelines do reflect the difference in age level of the students. The building level policies are as follows:

ELEMENTARY BUS DISCIPLINE STEPS (B.D.S.)

1st offense/Written Report	parent notified - written conference student assign a seat
2nd offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 1 day
3rd offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 3 days
4th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 5 days
5th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 10 days
6th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 30 days
7th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 60 days
8th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 90 days
9th offense/Written Report	parent notified conference student + counselor suspend from bus 180 days

*For controlled substance - alcohol violations see, OASD Drug & Alcohol Discipline Policy (Pol. 227).

*Controlled Substance/Alcohol

