

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5110
(Regulation 5110)

Buildings and Grounds Management

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection

The Board recognizes the tremendous investment in the District's facilities, buildings, grounds and equipment. It is acknowledged that normal deterioration from natural elements and ordinary use will occur. However, with proper care and attention the rate of deterioration can be reduced and repair and replacement costs held within reasonable limits. Therefore, the Board believes that a proper program of preventive maintenance is a requirement for efficient and economic building operation.

The District shall survey and assess the exposure of friable asbestos in all buildings. A written report shall be filed with appropriate state agencies, and will be available for public review in the Superintendent's office. The report shall be filed as required by law. The District shall take all steps necessary to comply with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, as described in regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5120

Building and Grounds Management

Maintenance of Facilities

A maintenance division, under the supervision of the maintenance supervisor, shall be provided to perform maintenance tasks. The primary function of the maintenance division shall be to safeguard the public's investments in school facilities, grounds, and equipment by ensuring their continued useful service to the instruction program and to the community.

Each school principal is charged with the direct supervision of the facility. Custodians are employed to do routine cleaning tasks under the direction of the principal and maintenance supervisor.

Capital outlay work for new and existing building shall normally be done through a general contractor. District employees may be used when the use of a general contractor is not feasible.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5130
(Regulation 5130)

Building and Grounds Management

Energy Conservation Measures

In the interest of sound control of District financial resources and in general ecological management, the Board of Education directs that the Administration develop procedures for utilities use that will best meet the need of conservative utilization of these resources.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5210
(Regulation 5210)

Safety, Security and Communications

Hazardous Materials

The District will develop and implement written procedures for the purchase, use, storage and disposal of substances designated as hazardous by local, state and federal authorities.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5211

Safety, Security and Communications

Eye Protection

All students, teachers and visitors are required to wear industrial quality eye protective devices when participating in or observing the following activities in any class:

1. Exposure to molten materials.
2. Milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding or stamping of any solid materials.
3. Heat treatment, tempering or kiln firing of any materials.
4. Gas, electric arc or other forms of welding.
5. Repair or servicing of any vehicle.
6. Exposure to/or laboratory use of caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiation, or other similar hazards.

Eye protective devices designed to provide protection for the hazards involved and to meet standards specified by state law will be provided by the School District. These devices may be issued to the students or provided at work stations for individual activities. If the devices are issued to the students, principals are authorized to charge students for loss, damage or failure to return any device issued.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5220

Safety, Security and Communications

School Bus Safety

Safe transportation of students shall be the paramount obligation of the transportation staff. All procedures and rules developed by the administration shall be governed by this requirement. State and local laws pertaining to the operation of buses and vehicles used to transport students will be observed by drivers, students and staff.

The Administration will develop regulations for students to be included in Policy and Regulation 2610 – Behavioral Expectations. These rules and regulations will be published annually in student handbooks to be distributed to students and parents/guardians. Students will receive instruction for the safe loading, riding, unloading and emergency evacuation procedures.

District officials will file criminal charges of trespass against any person who unlawfully enters a District school bus where entry is not approved by Board policy or where the individual does not have written approval of the Board of Education.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5230
(Regulation 5230)

Safety, Security and Communications

Accident Reporting

In order that proper measures may be taken to avoid recurrence of accidents, written reports will be prepared on all accidents occurring on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5240
(Regulation 5240)

Safety, Security and Communications

Weather and Fire Emergencies

At the direction of the Superintendent of Schools, the principal will determine areas in each building which are best suited for the protection of students during civil defense emergencies, including adverse weather conditions. School will not be dismissed in the case of a civil defense alert or tornado warning.

It shall also be the duty of the Superintendent of Schools to provide for fire inspections on an announced and unannounced basis in each building. The Superintendent is responsible for remedying unsafe conditions reported by local fire marshals acting in their official capacities.

The principal will assume responsibility for preparing a fire drill and emergency exit plan for each building that will permit students to leave the building safely and quickly. Fire and tornado drills will be scheduled as required by local ordinances and District emergency plans.

The District may adopt emergency plans for the use of the District's resources during natural disasters or other community emergencies. These resources may include food assistance through the use of federal commodity foods, and the use of school buildings and buses.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5241

Safety, Security and Communications

Emergency School Closings

The Superintendent may order the delay of opening, early dismissal or the closing of schools due to inclement weather, hazardous road conditions or specific emergency situations which would make the operation of school impractical or hazardous to pupils. Notification of such actions will be given over local radio and television stations. Unless individually approved by the Superintendent, after-school activities will be canceled on the day which school is closed or dismissed early due to weather or other emergency conditions.

Instructional time lost due to weather and other emergency conditions will be made up as required by the State and as approved by the Board of Education.

Safety, Security and Communications

Bomb Threats

Bomb Threat – A bomb threat is a threat alleging that an explosive device is located on school properties. This threat may be made by telephone, in writing, e-mail, fax or by first party verbal conversation with a school official or student. The only allegation necessary is that a bomb is on school premises.

Most bomb threats are made by phone and tend to be very brief. The message is stated in a few words and then the caller hangs up. Every effort should be made to obtain detailed information from the caller, such as:

1. When is a bomb going to explode?
2. What kind of bomb is it?
3. What does the bomb look like?
4. Where is the bomb located?
5. Why did you place it or who placed it and why?

Procedures

1. Notify building principal or designated school official in charge of threatened area.
2. Contact local police/fire (911 if available in the area) and other emergency teams.
3. Contact the Superintendent.
4. Notify the telephone company (if any arrangements have been made to follow through on a trace of phone calls).
5. The senior law enforcement officer present and the building principal or designated school official will determine what procedures to follow. They shall order the building evacuated by means of a fire drill.
6. A search of the building or premises should be conducted under the direction of the senior officers present from either protective departments. Law enforcement officers, firefighters and designated school officials should assist in the search.

7. All persons who have been instructed to check the building will make a prompt visual search of their respective areas and report to the principal or emergency personnel any items or containers that are unusual or foreign to the normal operation of the school. Do not handle any item under suspicion.
8. The building will be under the principal's jurisdiction, but it will be under the police or fire department's authority if a bomb is discovered.
9. The principal will make the decision for the students and other personnel to reenter the building. If possible, the principal should seek the advice of police/fire departments when declaring the building safe to reenter.
10. Investigation of the incident should be made by the local law enforcement officials, assisted by the state fire marshal's office, if requested.

Any decision concerning the dismissal of school and subsequent make-up time should the bomb threats become numerous and hinder instruction time, shall be made by the Superintendent with Board approval.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5250

Safety, Security and Communications

Tobacco Free Buildings

To promote the health and safety of all students and staff, and to promote the cleanliness of all facilities, the Carthage R-IX School District bans the use of all tobacco products in all school facilities, buildings and school buses at all times.

This ban extends to all employees, students and patrons attending school-sponsored athletic events and meetings. The Board issues this ban in a sincere appeal to all employees, students and patrons to cooperate in helping to create within our facilities a truly healthy environment for all concerned.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5260

Safety, Security and Communications

Safety and Health Standards

The School Board directs the Superintendent to insure that the administration and management of all District operations be in compliance with local laws and regulations pertaining to student and staff safety and state and federal laws and standards regarding occupational safety and health. At various times District supervisors will issue specific safety standards and will provide ongoing directives, oral and written, to maximize employee and student safety. Failure to comply with such safety directives will be considered serious misconduct and will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5270

Safety, Security and Communications

Security of Buildings and Grounds

The administration will develop procedures to ensure that school facilities are safeguarded against criminal acts and negligent use. All District employees are responsible for the care and proper use of School District property. Maintenance personnel are responsible for the care, repair and annual maintenance of District equipment and facilities. After school access to District facilities is limited to authorized individuals and groups.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5280

Safety, Security and Communications

Vandalism and Theft

The administration will take appropriate actions to punish individuals determined to have vandalized District property. Such actions include, but are not limited to school disciplinary action, restitution and criminal and civil charges.

Incident reports are to be sent to the Superintendent/designee and the maintenance supervisor by the building administrator no later than the day following an incident. A telephone call to the Superintendent is to be made on the day of discovery as soon as practical.

Adopted: February 17 2003

Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5310

Purchasing and Supply Management

Purchasing Furniture and Equipment

The Superintendent/designee shall develop a standardized furniture and equipment list for each type of facility in the School District. Furniture or equipment needed in addition to the standardized list requires specific approval of the Superintendent/designee prior to bidding or purchase.

Furniture and equipment shall be purchased in accordance with the policies governing bidding requirements and purchasing procedures of the Board of Education.

The Board may purchase apparatus, equipment and furnishings for its schools and operations by entering into lease/purchase agreements with vendors. Any agreement which may result in District ownership of the leased object must contain a provision which allows the District an option to terminate the agreement on at least an annual basis without penalty. All expenditures related to lease/purchase agreements shall be considered expenditures for capital outlay and shall be paid pursuant to the provisions of section 165.011, RSMo., Budget and Current Financing.

Adopted: February 17 2003

Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5320

Purchasing and Supply Management

Preference for Missouri Products

Preference will be given to making District purchases to all commodities manufactured, mined, produced, or grown within the state and to all firms, corporations, or individuals doing business as Missouri firms, corporations, or individuals when quality and price are approximately the same.

Adopted: February 17 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5410

Inventory Management

Inventory Requirements

Annual Inventory

The Board may require a physical count of all stock supply and equipment items at least once each year. This inventory total shall be recorded on the District's accounts.

This is done to provide:

1. Complete local property information for ready reference.
2. Information for insurance purposes.
3. Audit needs to determine capital worth.
4. Accountability of the physical property of the District.

The building principal is responsible for the inventory. The person responsible for the room and its contents should take the inventory.

"Physical Property" for inventory purposes is defined as that property other than the building and built-in facilities such as bookcases, wall lockers and toilets. "Physical Property" includes such items as desks, chairs, typewriters, computers, audio-visual equipment, shop, home economics and physical education equipment even though attached to the building, i.e. stage curtains, auditorium seating, clocks and public address systems. "Physical Property" meets all the following criteria:

1. Retains its original shape and appearance with use.
2. Is nonexpendable (more feasible to repair than replace).
3. Represents an investment of money which makes it advisable to capitalize the item.
4. Does not lose its identity through incorporation into a different or more complex unit.

Adopted: February 17 2003

Effective: July 1, 2003

“Physical Property” does not include supplies, textbooks, reference books, material, chalk and erasers, picture frames, cutlery, glassware, etc. Supply items which are not included are those which meet one or more of the following conditions:

1. Consumable
2. Loses its original shape or appearance
3. Expendable (more feasible to replace than repair)
4. Inexpensive item with value less than \$100.00.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5420

Inventory Management

Maintenance and Control of Instructional Materials

All School District instructional materials and equipment, including media materials and equipment, will be classified and catalogued. All textbooks purchased by the District are school property and will bear identification of School District ownership. Obsolete materials and worn out equipment will be replaced on a regular basis.

Textbooks will be made available to all students in sufficient quantity and at appropriate levels, enabling teachers to meet both the planned curriculum sequence and the special instructional needs of the students.

Principals are responsible for textbooks assigned to teachers, and for instituting an inventory of all books at the end of the school year. Each teacher shall keep an accurate record of books issued to students. Students will be held responsible for the proper care of all schoolbooks, supplies, apparatus and furniture supplied to them by the Board of Education. Any student who defaces or damages school property shall be required to pay for all damages. Any student who loses school property shall be required to pay for its replacement.

Adopted: February 17 2003

Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5440

Inventory Management

Equipment on Loan

School District equipment is not to be lent to individuals or groups outside the schools. Deviation from this policy requires permission from the Superintendent/designee.

Adopted: February 17 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5510

Food Service Program

Food Service Management

The Superintendent will develop and implement procedures for operating a food services program. In addition, the Superintendent/designee will monitor the quality and efficiency of the District's food service program. The District's food service program will comply with all state and federal regulations for food quality and financial reimbursement.

The Board may elect to contract with a food service management company to manage the District's food service program. The duration of contracts with food service management companies will be limited to one (1) year with no more than four (4) annual renewals.

Lunch prices will be established annually by the Board.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5520

Food Service Program

Uniform Policy for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

The District will participate in the national school lunch program. Eligible students will be identified for participation in the free and reduced-price lunch program based upon federal and state guidelines.

Information concerning the eligibility standards will be distributed annually within the District. The identification of student participants in the program will be confidential with such information disclosed to staff members on a strict need-to-know basis.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5530

Food Service Program

Competitive Food Sales

In order to comply with requirements of Part 210, National School Lunch Program, and Part 220, School Breakfast Program as amended, respecting the sale of food in competition with meals served under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, the sale of categories of foods of minimal nutritional value during the meal periods in the cafeteria is prohibited. The restricted categories of foods are identified as soda water (carbonated beverages), water ices, chewing gum and certain candies (hard candies, jellies and gums, marshmallow candies, fondants, licorice, spun candies and candy-coated popcorn).

Adopted: February 17 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5540
(Regulation 5540)

Food Service Program

Food Safety

The purpose of the District's food safety program is to ensure the delivery of safe foods to children in the school meals program by controlling hazards that may occur or be introduced into foods anywhere along the flow of food from receiving to service.

Serving safe food is a critical responsibility for school food service and is a key aspect of a healthy school environment. Keeping foods safe is a vital part of healthy eating. When properly implemented, the District's food safety program will help ensure the safety of school meals served to District students.

In order to carry out these goals and comply with federal law, the District's Food Safety Program will include written plans for each school and will be consistent with Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles.

The District's Food Safety Program will focus on three (3) key points.

1. Food preparation areas will be maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. This includes ensuring that workers hands, utensils, and food contact areas are clean and sanitary so as to avoid cross contamination.
2. Temperature controls will be strictly adhered to. Food will be cooked and served at the proper temperature.
3. Standard Operation Procedures should be developed to ensure sanitation; to ensure that food is maintained at the proper temperatures, and to facilitate other safety aspects of the food service program.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5610 **(Regulation 5610)**

Transportation

School Bus Drivers

No person will operate a District school bus unless the person possesses a valid school bus permit and has complied with the regulations of the Department of Revenue. As required by regulations of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, all school bus drivers employed by the District or through a transportation contractor are required to submit a health certificate completed by a physician for each current school term. In addition to the required health certificate, the Board may require evidence of continued good health from individual drivers at any time it deems necessary.

Adopted: February 17 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5620 **(Regulation 5620)**

Transportation

Student Transportation Services

The Board of Education, in accordance with state law, shall provide free transportation for eligible students attending the District schools. The Superintendent shall ensure that the transportation services of the District meet all of the guidelines established by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, i.e. Missouri Pupil Transportation Administrative Handbook, Missouri Minimum Standards for School Buses, Missouri Certified Bus Driver Instructor's Manual, and Missouri School Bus Driver Manual, as well as the policies that pertain directly to the qualifications of bus operators and operational procedures adopted by the Board of Education.

According to regulations of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, bus transportation will be provided to and from District schools for all students who reside three and one-half (3.5) miles or more from the school located in their attendance areas. State regulations provide for reimbursement to districts providing transportation for those students living more than one (1) mile from their attendance area school. The District may transport students who reside less than one (1.0) mile from school when students are required to cross a state highway or county arterial without access to sidewalks, traffic signals, or a crossing guard and no existing bus stop is changed to avoid administrative penalty. In such instance the District will request a waiver of the administrative penalty.

The Superintendent is directed to prepare annually a plan for student transportation services for the upcoming school year which addresses student transportation needs within the limitations of District finances, including state aid for transportation services. The plan will address mileage distance from school and grade level requirements for receiving transportation to be provided by the District. This plan shall be presented for School Board approval no later than the regular August Board meeting of each school year. In cases when the transportation plan remains the same as the prior school year, the plan may be submitted to the School Board as an informational rather than an action item.

Qualified individuals under Section 504 or the IDEA will be provided bus transportation by the District between home and the special education program. Transportation for a student with disabilities under the IDEA or Section 504 will be provided between schools if the student's IEP team or Section 504 team determines that such transportation is necessary as a related service due to the student's disability. Eligibility for transportation as a related service must be stated in the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan. If a disabled student's IEP team or Section 504 team determines that certain accommodations, modifications or supports are necessary to appropriately transport the student, the District shall provide such accommodations, modifications or supports as indicated in the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan.

Students are expected to comply with behavioral expectations as stated in Policy 2652 – Student Conduct on Buses – while they are passengers in District vehicles.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5630

Transportation

Bus Routes and Schedules

The Administration will prepare and monitor District bus routes and schedules. The Board will initially approve all bus routes no later than October 31 of each school year; the final bus routes must be approved by June 30 of each school year. Buses will be routed with student safety, efficiency and economy as the controlling factors.

Adopted: February 17 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5640

Transportation

Bus Inspections

All District vehicles that are used to transport students will be inspected annually by the Missouri State Highway Patrol after February 1 of each school year.

Annual state bus inspections conducted by District employees shall be made during the month of August. Bus drivers and bus maintenance employees have the responsibility to inspect, report and remedy any condition of District buses which poses an unreasonable risk of harm to students and staff.

Newly purchased, newly leased, newly placed into service, newly contracted vehicles or vehicles replaced under contracted services with a rated capacity to carry more than ten (10) passengers including the driver, and used to transport students, shall meet state and federal specification and safety standards applicable to school buses.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5650

Transportation

Transportation Records and Reports

The Superintendent will develop and maintain procedures for monitoring and reporting student transportation infractions.

Records of student ridership will be taken and reported for each route on the second Wednesday of October and February, as per Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) regulations.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5660
(Regulation 5660)

Transportation

Field Trips

The use of bus transportation services for field trips may be authorized from Board of Education appropriated funds budgeted for field trips if approved by the Superintendent/designee.

Transportation services may be provided for school-related activities provided the sponsoring organization pays the cost. The Superintendent/designee will approve such requests based upon the availability of buses and drivers.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5661
(Regulation 5661)

Transportation

Field Trip Transportation in Private Vehicles/Common Carriers

Authorized vehicles other than approved school buses may be used for transportation of students. The number of students transported shall be limited to the number of seat belts available in the authorized vehicle. The School Board shall adopt regulations for transportation in other than approved school buses and standards for use of authorized common carriers.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Policy 5670

Transportation

Use of School Buses

School buses will be used only for the transportation of students to and from school or for District educational purposes.

District buses used to transport children to Head Start programs will display signs indicating that the bus is a Head Start bus.