
FIELD TRIPS

The board of education recognizes that field trips, used as a device for teaching and learning integral to the curriculum, are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the school.

For purposes of this policy, a field trip shall be defined as any journey by a group of pupils away from the school premises, under the supervision of a teacher, which is an integral part of an approved course of study and conducted for the purpose of affording a first-hand educational experience not available in the classroom.

The board of education shall consider field trips which are included in curriculum guides to have been approved in advance. All trips not listed in the curriculum guide must be individually approved by the board. Times and locations of field trips shall not be posted on any district web sites.

When field trips and excursions are to be arranged, the following guidelines apply:

- A. All trips, and the arrangements for them, must have advance approval. This includes whether district buses will be used; whether these may be supplemented by private vehicles; the route to be followed; and parking arrangements if necessary. Trips not exceeding a radius of thirty (30) miles from the Oxford Central School shall be reported by the CSA and approved by the board of education.
- B. Costs must be ascertained.
- C. Each child who goes on a field trip or excursion must have written parental permission.
- D. Pupil safety must be of prime concern, and adequate supervision must be provided by staff aided by other adult chaperones if necessary.
- E. All trips must be well planned, properly timed, and related to regular learning activities, or to district goals and objectives.
- F. Each field trip should be evaluated by pupils, teachers, and the administration.

Parents/guardians may be asked to bear the expense of all other excursions. No pupil is to be denied the right to participate because of inability to pay.

The chief school administrator shall develop guidelines for planning trips suitable to the various grade levels, and regulations governing frequency, distance and expense. The board does not endorse, support or assume liability in any way for any staff member of this district who takes pupils on trips not approved by the board. No staff member may solicit pupils of this district for such trips within the facilities or on the school grounds of this district without board permission.

Pupil Self-Administration of Medication

The board shall permit self-administration of medication on field trips for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illness by pupils in grades seven or eight and ONLY WITH PRIOR PARENTAL PERMISSION. All conditions established by law and board policy shall be met (see policy 5141.21).

Epinephrine shall be administered via epi-pen to pupils in emergencies on field trips by the school nurse, his/her designee(s), the student's parent/guardian or the student himself/herself, in accordance with policy 5141.21 Administering Medication.

Date:

Adoption: August 20, 1997

Review Date: June 26, 2008

Revision and Adoption: December 18, 2008

Legal References:

Mandated:

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1(b) requires policy and procedures governing transportation of pupils to and from school-related activities.

Other Reasons:

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-21 permits boards to authorize trips for which parents/guardians will bear all the costs, except for special education pupils and pupils with financial hardship. N.J.S.A. 18A:36-23 provides that no pupil may be excluded because of inability to pay.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-35 prohibits the publication on district web sites of "personally identifiable information" about students without prior written parental consent. Posting the locations and times of class trips is included in this prohibition.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3 provides for pupil self-administration of medication for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses.

It is advisable to have a policy statement addressing the kinds of field trips the board will sponsor; who will pay which costs; and responsibility for approval.

<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2</u>	Authority over pupils
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:36-21</u> through -23	Field trips; costs to be borne by parents or guardians ...
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:36-35</u>	School Internet web sites; disclosure of certain student information prohibited
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:39-20.1</u>	Transportation to and from related school activities in private vehicle with capacity of eight or less; authorization of qualified school personnel, state employees or parents
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3</u> through -12.4	Self-administration of medication by pupils; conditions ...
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.5</u>	Policy for emergency administration of epinephrine to public school pupils
<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.6</u>	Administration of epinephrine; primary responsibility; parental consent
<u>N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.</u> <u>See particularly:</u> <u>N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1(b),</u> -7.6, -11.1, -11.2	Student transportation

Rhodes v. Caldwell Board of Education, 1981 S.L.D. 140

Possible

Cross References:	1210	Community organizations
	1230	School-connected organizations
	3450	Money in school buildings
	3541.31	Privately owned vehicles
	5020	Role of parents/guardians
	5136	Fund-raising activities
	5141.21	Administering medication
	6145	Extracurricular activities
	6154	Homework/makeup work

Key Words

Field Trips, Trips