

GILMER COUNTY SCHOOLS

POLICY MANUAL

TITLE: Student Transportation Service
State Board of Education Ref: 18-5-13

The Gilmer County Board of Education, subject to the provision of 18-5-13 of the Laws of the State of West Virginia and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education shall have authority:

To provide at public expense adequate means of transportation for all children of school age, who live more than two miles distance from school by the nearest available road and to provide at public expense and according to such regulations as the Board may establish, adequate means of transportation for school children participating in Board-approved curricular and extracurricular activities; and provide in addition thereto, the rules and regulations and within the available revenues, transportation for those within two miles distance: Provided, that in all cases the buses or other transportation facilities owned by the Board of Education shall be driven or operated only by school bus drivers regularly** employed by the Board of Education: Provided, however, that buses shall be used for extracurricular activities as herein provided only when the insurance provided for by this section shall have been affected.

To provide at public expense for insurance against the negligence of the drivers of school buses, trucks or other vehicles operated by the Board.

WHEREAS, according to Chapter 18, Article 5, Section 13, Subsection 6, Code of West Virginia, the Board of Education, subject to the rules and regulations of the State Board, has the authority to provide, at public expense, means of transportation for all children of school age who live more than two miles from school, therefore, be it RESOLVED.

The following policies have been adopted to guide the student transportation services.

1. The Board will provide transportation to regular day students attending the public schools of Gilmer County, who live more than two miles from the school assigned to attendance.
2. The Board will provide, in addition to that authority granted by law, transportation within two miles if there are available revenues.
3. The Board sets the following regulations for walking students:
 - a. Secondary students living one mile or less distant from the school attended shall walk to school.
 - b. Elementary students living one-half mile or less distant from the school attended shall walk to school.

4. The Superintendent and/or his Director of Transportation shall hear all public pleas of transportation, and determine what administrative action shall be taken. In cases of policy change, the Superintendent shall recommend these changes to the Board.

5. The Superintendent and/or his Director of Transportation shall act in an arbitrary manner, and shall take into consideration revenues available, the health and age of the pupil, conditions of the road to be traveled, and hazardous conditions of such roads.

6. This policy shall in no way affect the existing policy of compensation for walking students who live two or more miles from schools or from a bus route.

7. No one, other than a regular Board of Education employee shall drive a motor vehicle owned by the Board of Education. Regular Board of Education employee shall mean any custodian, bus driver, teacher, or other professional or service or auxiliary employee.

8. Any use of a motor vehicle by a regular school employee shall be authorized, before such use, by the Superintendent of Schools.

9. The Superintendent will insure that any operator (as a regular school employee) of a Board of Education motor vehicle shall have an effective operator's license in the State of West Virginia before authorizing the use of such vehicles.