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Statement	WESTS is responsible for providing efficient and effective student transportation services. In order to meet this objective, WESTS plans, and implements routes in a manner that optimizes the available resources and takes into consideration the length of travel time for students.		
	Maximum travel times have been set for bus trips, which are applied subject to the specific geography of the area. (N.B. There may be situations where the maximum travel time can not be met and will exceed the times noted below). The Service Parameters have been developed to assist in ensuring that the routes are both safe and efficient.		
Service Parameters	The following service parameters will be utilized: 1. The arrival times at school will be set at no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the morning bell for elementary schools.		
	2. The arrival morning time for secondary school runs will be based on developing the most efficient routing but will not exceed one hour prior to bell time.		
	3. Transfers may be used to balance bus loads and increase efficiencies.		
	4. Combination of secondary and elementary students on the same bus may occur if required to optimize routes.		
	5. Students are not permitted to stand on the bus. The Bus load capacity only includes seated passengers.		
	6. Maximum Number of Students on a Bus are set as per the Manufacturer's Seating Capacity Rating (MSCR) to reasonably accommodate as many riders as possible while respecting student safety and comfort during transport. The Optimum Weighted Load Capacity will be used as follows:		
	Vehicle Size	Optimum Weighted Capacity	Optimum Weighted Capacity
	5120	GR. JK to 6	Gr. 7 to 12
	20	20	17
	36	36	24
	66	66	44
	72	70	46





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- 7. Community Bus Stops WESTS assigns students to community bus stops, as per Policy E-01- Transportation and Eligibility and SD-01 Walk Distance to Bus Stop. Community Bus stops for programs identified by School Boards may exceed the walk distances as identified in Policy SD-01 Walk Distances to Bus Stop.
- 8. The length of the bus trip will be calculated using the Bus Planner software based on "normal" traffic conditions. Construction, accidents and inclement weather may cause the trip to exceed the optimal trip lengths. If any construction is expected to be long term and affect the route on a continuous basis the routing will be reviewed to determine if the route time can be reduced.

The amount of time spent aboard the bus by students shall not normally exceed:

60 minutes- Junior kindergarten to Grade 6 75 minutes - Grade 7 to Grade 12

Referenced policies:

E-01 Transportation & Eligibility SD-01 Walk Distance to Bus Stop