

## **USE OF STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES BY PRIVATE NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The Board of Education supports the idea that educational field trips are a benefit to all children, including those who attend non-public schools that are located in the Gowanda Central School District. As such, the Board has established the following policy guidelines that will serve to govern the use of student transportation vehicles when used for non-sectarian, educational field trips.

The organizations that will be considered eligible to request the use of student transportation vehicles are limited to private non-public schools, as determined by Education Law, located in the Gowanda Central School District.

Eligible organizations will be permitted to use school vehicles for four trips between the period from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the trip(s) shall be non-sectarian, educational field trips.

The distance for each trip shall be limited to a 100 mile radius (one-way) from the bus garage to a location in New York State without Board approval. The vehicle(s) must depart no sooner than 9:00 AM and return no later than 2:00 PM during the school year.

Eligible organizations must apply for the use of school vehicles no sooner than 90 days and no later than 30 days of the date of the trip and receive advance approval from the superintendent.

The eligible organization must reimburse the District for the use of the school vehicle(s) and the driver at the current rate in effect at the time of the trip. Payment will be due within 30-days of invoice. Failure to reimburse the District in a timely manner will result in restrictions for future use of school vehicles.

Eligible organizations must provide the School District in advance with proof of insurance in the form of a certificate of additional insured. Two chaperones associated with the non-public school must be present on the bus during travel. The non-public school will be responsible for all student health and welfare issues.

No more than three (3) school vehicles will be made available for any approved trip. Only Gowanda School District employees will be permitted to serve as bus drivers.

Gowanda School District reserves the right to deny trips even if previously confirmed by the superintendent. Gowanda School district may cancel a trip for health or safety reasons or if the trip is in conflict with special Gowanda School District trips. The Gowanda School District will not be responsible for any losses due to cancellations or any lost or stolen property. The organization is responsible for any damage to the bus caused by student or adult behavior associated with the trip.

**USE OF STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES BY PRIVATE  
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Cross Reference: Refer to Policy #1500 – Public Use of School Facilities for a definition of the use of school vehicles by municipal recreation organizations.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – June 3, 2009  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – June 24, 2009  
Approved – July 7, 2009