

## **MEDWAY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY “SPECIAL USE OF BUSES”**

### **NEPN/NSBA CODE:**

### **USE OF SCHOOL BUSES BY COMMUNITY GROUPS**

The general philosophy of the Medway School Board is that transportation equipment purchased by the Medway School Department is to be used primarily for school purposes and that taxpayers will not be expected to subsidize busing equipment and personnel not necessary for School Department purposes. Nevertheless, it is the policy of the Medway School Board to make available for use by appropriate community groups school transportation equipment to the extent that such use does not impinge upon/impair use for School Department purposes, and that use by any group is not, in the judgment of the School Board, excessive.

### **REGULATIONS:**

- ♦ The Medway Recreation Department, senior citizen, and non-profit community groups will be given special consideration regarding community use of school buses. All groups will be expected to pay the costs of driver and fuel involved in the use of school transportation equipment.
- ♦ Non-school use of school transportation equipment will not interfere with:
  - ◊ Student transportation to, from, or between schools;
  - ◊ Student transportation for school activities and functions;
  - ◊ Emergency transportation for students;
  - ◊ Time required for maintenance and service of equipment;
  - ◊ Provision of standby equipment for school purposes.
- ♦ The superintendent will assess all requests for outside transportation and determine feasibility of all such requests.
- ♦ The superintendent will be responsible for approving the use of school department equipment by community groups. In approving and scheduling such use, the superintendent will apply the following criteria:

- ◇ No use will be approved which involves travel over roads or distances which are unduly wearing or damaging to the bus or for which equipment construction is inappropriate;
- ◇ School Department buses will be driven only by Medway School Department bus drivers as approved by the School Board as regular or spare drivers. It is permissible for an approved driver to provide his/her services on a non-pay (volunteer) basis;
- ◇ Any approval of use will be subject to cancellation in the event of adverse road, weather, or other conditions which could reasonably present a danger to passengers, drivers, or equipment, or in the event of unexpected or emergency school needs;
- ◇ Use will not be approved unless some individual identifies him (her) self as coordinator of the group and agrees to assume the responsibility for collection and remittance to the School Department of the required reimbursement;
- ◇ Use will be approved only when the group requesting such use submits a written request no less than ten (10) days prior to the use, designating the number of riders, the dates and hours of use, the pickup and delivery points, and such other information as the Superintendent deems appropriate;
- ◇ Use will not be approved if it is for partisan political activity, activity promoting or opposing any sectarian views, activity which is potentially disruptive or dangerous, and/or activity which if uniformly extended would result in uses which would impinge upon school use or activities of a similar nature which are inappropriate for School Department participation;
- ◇ The Medway Senior Citizens Group will be allowed use of a driver for a flat daily wage of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Also, the Medway Senior Citizens Group may choose a driver from regular or spare drivers employed by the Medway School Department;

#### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRANSPORT IN CASE OF FAILED EQUIPMENT:**

If, during the course of use of a Medway School Department bus, it becomes necessary (because of breakdown, accident, or other unforeseen condition) to secure a replacement bus or driver, the group (through its coordinator) assumes all costs for the replacement transportation.

**Revised Adopted Date: 6/25/98**

Adopted Date: 1/18/96