

**Policy 706 School Bussing****I. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe and orderly transportation services for Achieve Language Academy students in within the constraints of a limited and regulated budget.

**II. General statements of Policy**

- A. Transportation services will be contracted through St. Paul Public Schools when possible; through a commercial licensed and bonded school bus transportation company when necessary.
- B. Every student who attends Achieve shall be offered transportation services within the limits of the city of St. Paul. Students residing outside St. Paul may not be eligible for transportation services. When it is impractical to provide bus transportation via regular school bus routes, the school board may authorize alternative transportation for transporting students.
- C. The school will attempt to maintain bus stops that are a reasonable distance from each student's home; routinely not more than one-half mile between the home and the assigned bus stop. The school shall determine the shortest pedestrian route, whether or not it is accessible to motor vehicle traffic.
- D. The school may provide transportation for other persons to events or activities in which the school has agreed to participate or cosponsor.
- E. As defined in Minnesota Statute 123.805 and 123.7991: "Riding the school bus is a privilege not a right", and as such may be revoked for safety and discipline infractions. Parents or guardians will be responsible for instructing their child in safe school bus ridership practices. If the child violates school bus policy, the parent will provide transportation for their child. A student's eligibility to ride the school bus may be suspended or revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct procedures, or for violation of any other law or policy governing student conduct. The School will print and distribute copies of the School Bus Discipline Policy to the classroom teachers to review with the students.
- F. The school board acknowledges that school bus transportation is a privilege not a right of student enrollment at Achieve and that all students will be made aware of this. The school will adopt procedures to address school bus conduct in a fair and timely manner.
- G. All students will receive bus safety training during the first 2 weeks of school and demonstrate competencies by the end of 3 weeks as required by MN statutes.
- H. Transportation is provided to students with disabilities that meet the State of Minnesota laws, rules, and regulations for service. However, not every student with a disability will be provided door to door bus service. The student's IEP team will evaluate the handicapping or disabling condition of the student to determine their need for services.