

1 **8111 NON-INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS**

2 Transportation of Students with Disabilities

3 Transportation shall be provided as a related service, when a student with a disability requires special
4 transportation in order to benefit from special education or to have access to an appropriate education
5 placement.

6 **Transportation is defined as:**

- 7 a) Travel to and from school and between schools;
- 8 b) Travel in and around school buildings or to those activities that are a regular part of the student’s
9 instructional program;
- 10 c) Specialized equipment (such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps) if required to provide
11 special transportation for a student with disabilities.

12 The Evaluation Team that develops the disabled student’s Individualized Education Program, (IEP), will
13 determine, on an individual basis, when a student with a disability requires this related service. Such
14 recommendations must be specified on the student’s IEP. Only those children with disabilities who qualify
15 for transportation as a related service under the provisions of the, Individual Disability Education Act,
16 (IDEA) shall be entitled to special transportation. All other children with disabilities in the District have
17 access to the District’s contracted regular transportation system under policies and procedures applicable
18 to all District students. Utilizing the District’s contracted regular transportation service shall be viewed as
19 a “least restrictive environment.”

20 The Great Falls Public Schools may allow siblings of IEP student riders to ride to/from school with the IEP
21 student.

22 **Mode of Transportation**

23 One of the District’s contracted special education buses will be the preferred mode of transportation.
24 Exceptions may be made in situations where buses are prohibited from entering certain subdivisions due
25 to inadequate turning space, or when distance from school may seriously impact bus scheduling. In such
26 situations other arrangements, such as an individual transportation contract, may be arranged with
27 parents. Such voluntary agreement will stipulate in writing the terms of reimbursement.

28 Cross Reference:

29 3300 Corrective Actions and Punishment

30 Legal Reference:

31 10.16.3820, ARM Transportation for Special Education Students with Disabilities

32 Policy History:

33 Adopted on: January 22, 2007

34 Revised on: June 9, 2014