

**SCHOOL POLICIES  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

<b>POLICY</b>	610	<b>Page:</b> 1 of 2
<b>SERIES</b>	600	Educational Program
<b>SUBJECT</b>	610	Field Trips
<b>Adopted</b>		April 24, 2001
<b>Revised</b>		December 9, 2003

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for student trips and to identify the general process to be followed for review and approval of trip requests.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

It is the general expectation of the School Board that all student trips will be well planned, conducted in an orderly manner and safe environment, and will relate directly to the objectives of the class or activity for which the trip is requested. Student trips will be categorized within three general areas:

A. Instructional Trips

Trips that take place during the school day, relate directly to a course of study, and require student participation shall fall in this category. These trips shall be subject to review and approval of the building principal, and shall be financed by school district funds within the constraints of the school building budget. Fees may not be assessed against students to defray direct costs of required instructional trips. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.37, Prohibited Fees)

B. Voluntary Trips

This category pertains to those trips in which students voluntarily participate and which may or may not take place during the regular school day. These trips are subject to review and approval of the activities director and/or the building principal. Financial contributions by students may be requested. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees))

C. Extended Trips

1. Trips that involve one or more overnight stops fall into this category. Extended trips may be instructional or supplementary, and must be requested well in advance of the planned activity. An extended trip request form must be completed and approved at each level: parent/guardian, principal, and Superintendent. Exceptions to the

approval policy may be granted or expedited to accommodate emergencies or contingencies (e.g. tournament competition).

2. The School Board acknowledges and supports the efforts of booster clubs and similar organizations in providing extended trip opportunities for students.

### **III. REGULATIONS**

- A. Rules of conduct and discipline for students and employees shall apply to all student trip activity.
- B. The school administration shall be responsible for providing more detailed procedures, including parental involvement, supervision, and such other factors deemed important and in the best interest of students.
- C. Transportation shall be furnished through a commercial carrier or school-owned vehicle. In the event a private vehicle is approved for use, a certificate of insurance must be on file in the school district office.

### **IV. SCHOOL BOARD REVIEW**

The Superintendent shall at least annually report to the School Board upon the utilization of trips under this policy.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)  
Minn. Stat. 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)  
Minn. Stat. 123B.49 (Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)  
*Sonkowsky v. Board of Educ. for Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 721*, 327 F.3d 675 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003)  
*Lee v. Pine Bluff Sch. Dist.*, 472 F.3d 1026 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2007)

**Cross References:** Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
Policy 423 (Employee – Student Relationships)  
Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
Policy 707 (Transportation of Public School Students)  
Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)  
Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)