

Idling School Buses on School Grounds

The Board of Education recognizes the need to promote the health and safety of district students and staff and to protect the environment from harmful emissions found in bus and vehicle exhaust. In accordance with Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations the district will minimize, to the extent practicable, the idling of all school buses and other vehicles owned or leased by the district while such bus or vehicle is parked or standing on school grounds or in the front of any school. This policy also applies to contractor owned and operated school buses under contract with the district.

The district shall ensure that each driver of a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased or contracted for by the district turn off the engine of the bus or vehicle while waiting for passengers to load or off load on school grounds or while such vehicle is parked or standing on school grounds or in front of or adjacent to any school. The district shall periodically monitor compliance of school bus drivers with the requirements of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Exceptions

Unless otherwise required by State or local law, the idling of a school bus or vehicle engine may be permitted to the extent necessary to achieve the following purposes:

- a) For mechanical work; or
- b) To maintain an appropriate temperature for passenger comfort; or
- c) In emergency evacuations where necessary to operate wheelchair lifts.

Private Vendor Transportation Contracts

All contracts for pupil transportation services between the school district and a private vendor that are entered into on or after August 21, 2008 shall include a provision requiring such vendor's compliance with the provisions of reducing idling in accordance with Commissioner's Regulations Section 156.3(h).

Education Law Section 3637
Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 142
8 NYCRR Section 156.3(h)