



Carriage of Articles on Board-Provided Transportation Administrative Procedure

Departments: Finance and Operations
Section: Operations – Transportation

The school bus driver shall enforce the rules of safety and shall not unreasonably deny the carriage of Board-authorized articles. Carriage will be denied where the article is improperly cased, causes discomfort or displaces student seating, or cannot be stowed in a manner that would meet the requirements of the Nova Scotia *Motor Carrier Act*.

The following procedures shall be utilized by students and bus drivers:

1. **School Musical Instruments** – All school musical instruments must be carried in an approved hard-case container. Large musical instruments, such as a tuba, shall not be authorized for carriage unless seating arrangements permit the instrument to be placed on, or between, an unoccupied seat and in such a position that it does not displace passenger seating, extend above the seatback, or extend into the aisle of the bus. Musical instruments shall not be placed in overhead storage racks.
2. **Skateboards** – Skateboards must be carried in an approved skateboard bag or carrying case (not a plastic bag). Skateboards shall not be placed on empty seats, or in aisles, but must be retained in the possession of the student. Skateboards may be stowed under the student's seat. Skateboards shall not be placed in overhead storage racks.
3. **Skates** – Skates must be carried in a skate bag or carrying case (not a plastic bag). Skates shall not be placed on empty seats, or in aisles, but must be retained in the possession of the student. Skates may be stowed under the student's seat. Skates shall not be placed in overhead storage racks.
4. **Hockey Protective Equipment/Hockey Sticks** – Hockey protective equipment (normally carried in large hockey bags) and hockey sticks are **not** authorized for carriage in the passenger compartment of regular assigned bus runs transporting students to and from their residence and the school. Hockey protective equipment and hockey sticks may be carried on a "dedicated event school bus" providing the equipment and hockey sticks are carried in approved carrying bags, are stowed under, between or on seats, do not extend above the seatback or out into the aisle of the bus, and do not displace or cause discomfort to other students. Hockey protective equipment/hockey sticks shall not be placed in overhead storage racks.
5. **Skis/Ski Boots/Ski Poles/Snow Boards** – Skis/ski boots/ski poles/snow boards are **not** authorized for carriage in the passenger compartment of regular assigned bus runs transporting students to and from their residence and the school. These items may be carried on a "dedicated event school bus" providing the items are carried in approved carrying bags, are stowed under, between, or on seats, do not extend above the seatback or out into the aisle of the bus, and do not displace or cause discomfort to other students. skis/ski boots/ski poles/snow boards shall not be placed in overhead storage racks.
6. **Crazy Carpets** – Must be rolled and carried in an enclosed bag.
7. **Animals** – Are **not** authorized for carriage on the school bus, unless they are service animals that have been vetted through the appropriate AVRSB procedure.

8. **School Projects** – School projects may be carried in the passenger compartment of regular assigned bus runs providing the following requirements are met:
- (a) The school project must be held by the student;
 - (b) The school project must not be of a size that would extend out into the aisle of the bus;
 - (c) The school project must not be of a size that would displace or cause discomfort to other students.

Monitoring:

- The Director of Operations is responsible for the implementation, monitoring, and revision of this administrative procedure.
- This administrative procedure will be monitored annually.

Superintendent Approved: July 25/03

Ref: BP 202.5

Monitoring Date: Annually

Revised: June 5/15, May 11/16