

TURKEYFOOT VALLEY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE SCHOOL BUS SEATING
CAPACITY

ADOPTED: MAY 13, 2002

REVISED:
FORMERLY 7510 AR

810 AR 5 SCHOOL BUS SEATING CAPACITY

AUTHORITY

In order to provide safe transportation as it relates to maximum seating capacity on school buses, the following Vehicle Codes will be followed:

- Vehicle Code, Section 4552 – Adequate seating space of safe design and construction shall be provided for each passenger and no passenger shall be carried for which adequate seating space is not available.
- Title 67, Chapter 171, School Bus and School Vehicle Regulations:
 - “Section 171.42(1)” {page 17} – Minimum clearance for aisles shall be at least 30 centimeters (11 ³/₄ inches wide. Aisles shall be unobstructed at all times.
 - “Section 171.69(2)” {page 39} – A seating space at least 13 inches wide shall be provided for each passenger.
 - “Section 171.144(a)” {page 56} – Aisle clearance. Passengers in school buses may not be seated so as to encroach on the minimum aisle clearance required in Section 171.42 (relating to aisles).
 - “Section 171.144(d)” {page 57} – Standees. Standees are not permitted.

GUIDELINES

The below guidelines will be followed when determining the maximum number of pupils and/or chaperones permitted on a bus. This includes all transportation including regular, athletics, and field trips:

1. Total number of seats on 72 passenger school bus = 24 seats.
2. Primary trips (K-3) permitted 3 students per seat and 2 adults per seat.
3. Intermediate trips (4-6) permitted 2.5 per seat and 2 adults per seat.
4. Junior/Senior High trips permitted 2 students per seat and 2 adults per seat.
5. The numbers in the primary and intermediate are based on an estimated student size. Variances in student size could cause this number to be lower. If students and adults do not properly fit

within the safety zone of the seat area, the bus will not be permitted to leave.

6. Students should not be permitted to bring items on the bus that will block the aisle. This would also include items they may want to purchase during a fieldtrip. Glass bottles are not permitted on the bus due to the potential danger as a projectile in the event of an accident.

Please follow these guidelines when looking at whom you will be approving for a fieldtrip:

1. The fieldtrip is intended for the students, not the parents.
2. The primary teachers would be expected to have a higher ratio of students to chaperones because of the age of the children.
3. Don't fill the bus to capacity. Leave yourself an extra seat or two in case you can't get three students in a seat.
4. Request a second bus through the principal if necessary. Request must include a valid educational reason why a second bus is needed if due to the number of chaperones/parents; the parents may be required to pay extra to help compensate for the bus.
