

Vehicle Idling

The Board recognizes that it has a role in reducing environmental pollutants and in assisting students and others to be free from pollutants that may impact their respiratory health. Unnecessary vehicle idling emits pollutants and wastes fuel. The Board directs the Superintendent, in conjunction with the Transportation Manager, to work on administrative regulations to implement this policy and reduce school vehicle idling time.

Adopted: April 9, 2007
Revised: June 13, 2011
Revised: January 13, 2014

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §279.8 (2007)

Vehicle Idling Procedures

The board recognizes its role in reducing environmental pollutants that may impact the respiratory health of students and others. To reduce pollutants, the District has established the following procedures:

School buses are to remain idling only to maintain heat or air conditioning (upon approval of the Transportation Manager) on the bus while students are on board, or to keep the battery system charged when electrical components are in use.

When the temperature is 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below, school buses on regular or trip routes are to be started every hour and left to idle for ten (10) minutes to keep the engine warm. In extreme cold temperatures, or as directed by the Transportation Manager, drivers may be directed to idle buses more frequently.

To ensure efficient operation, buses are scheduled for lubrication and inspection every 3,000 miles or six (6) months, whichever comes first. A Bus Chassis Preventative Maintenance Inspection and Lubrication checklist is to be completed during the inspection.

Diesel-powered vehicles delivering materials to District buildings will be expected to comply with the District's idling policy. A copy of the policy will be provided upon request.

The Transportation Manager will review and monitor out-of-town trips and revise, if possible, to reduce unnecessary bus idling.

A copy of these administrative guidelines and the District's idling policy will be provided to each driver and discussed yearly at the Transportation Department in-service. A copy will also be included in the policy book located in the drivers' room. Drivers not complying with this policy will be informed of the consequences for failure to comply.