

FIELD TRIPS

The School Committee recognizes that firsthand learning experiences provided by field trips are a most effective and worthwhile means of learning. It is the desire of the Committee to encourage field trips as part of and directly related to the total school program and curriculum.

The Superintendent shall develop and enforce specific guidelines and appropriate administrative procedures to screen, approve, and evaluate trips and to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken for the safety of the participants. **General field trip** guidelines and procedures should be developed by the Administration and reviewed by the School Committee. **All field trips will** have the approval of the Principal.

All student travel “between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. or that will include an overnight stay away from a student’s home”* will be required to have the prior approval of Greenfield School Committee **and address criteria of MGL Chapter 71, Section 37N and the School Committee as outlined in IJOA-R Field Trip Regulations.**

Legal Ref: MGL 71, S.37N; Chapter 346 of Acts of 2002; DESE Transportation Guidelines for Overnight Trips

*MGL 71, Section 37N. Each school committee shall establish a policy concerning student travel sponsored by a school that is planned to occur between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m., or that will include an overnight stay away from a student's home. **The policy shall address, but not be limited to, such issues as safety of transportation and accommodations, cost, including expectations for fundraising by students, time away from school, appropriateness of the trip for the grade level and the trip approval process.** In adopting its policy, the school committee shall consider the model policy drafted by the board of education under section 1B of chapter 69.

[Chapter 346 of the Acts of 2002](#), An Act Relative to Safety of School Sponsored Travel, was enacted on October 9, 2002. This legislation created a new section of the General Laws (M.G.L. c.71 s.37N) which requires each school committee to establish a policy governing late night & overnight school sponsored student travel by January 7, 2005.

Reference DESE Policy Advisory: School Finance: Transportation Requirements for School District Policies Governing Late Night & Overnight School Sponsored Student Travel
http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/transportation/model_policy.html

Adopted 12.8.2004

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