

## **TRANSPORTATION OF OPEN ENROLLMENT STUDENTS**

### **Background**

Parents are responsible for the transportation of open enrolled students to their school. A change in Wisconsin Statutes (2005 Wisconsin Act 68) grants school boards the authority to transport nonresident open enrollment students to or from a location within the boundaries of the school district in which the student resides as long as they have the approval of the school board of the district in which the student resides. Parents whose children are open enrolled to the Colby School District currently provide transportation to the school or to the nearest point where transportation is provided by the Colby School District.

### **Decisions Concerning Transportation of Open Enrolled Students**

The Board recognizes that students enrolled in the Colby School District already may be transported through a neighboring district to attend school, that the District has in the past sponsored a shared bus with a neighboring school district, and that students who open enroll to the Colby School District bring significant state aid to assist the District's finances. Therefore, the Board authorizes its Superintendent to analyze each request for transportation and to approve the transportation of students who reside along a bus route already operated by the District; the Superintendent may authorize a bus to deviate one mile into another District's boundary to obtain a non-resident student who is open enrolled in the Colby School District, if an agreement can be forged with the other District to approve the incursion in accordance with Wisconsin Statute 121.54 (10). Further, the Colby Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to grant approval to requests from neighboring school districts for this same transportation consideration when that district has granted the Colby District the opportunity to transport students one mile within their territory.

The decision to extend transportation to an open enrolled student will be made on an individual basis, with greater consideration being granted to situations where more than one child will be transported and where a bus route would not have to be inordinately reconfigured. The decision of the Superintendent is final and not appealable.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wisconsin Stats. 118.51 (4)(a), 121.54(10)