

School Bus Idling

Board Policy: A-39
Adopted: December 12, 2005

I. General Policy Statement

The Haywood County Board of Education recognizes that unnecessary bus idling poses a health risk to the students and the driver. Further, the Board recognizes that a school bus idling policy not only reduces fuel consumption and cost, but also reduces emissions resulting in cleaner air for everyone.

II. Guidelines

1. Warm up time in the morning will be kept to a minimum of 3 – 5 minutes except in the coldest of weather. This follows the manufacturer's recommendations.
2. Upon arrival to the school, each bus must be turned off before unloading the students.
3. Buses will not be running during the loading process on the school campus in the afternoon.
4. Buses should not be parked nose to tail when possible; this causes the bus behind to fill up with exhaust fumes.
5. Drivers will not leave the bus idling un-attended. The driver must be in the drivers seat if the bus is running.
6. When leaving the campus in the afternoon, there must be several bus lengths between each departing bus. This provides enough space for the exhaust to escape and is a DMV requirement.
7. Buses should not be parked within 100 feet of an active school air intake system.
8. All drivers will be provided a copy of the guidelines by the transportation director or designee at the beginning of each school year and when new drivers are hired.

Legal Reference: G. S. 115C – 36, 242

State Board Policy: EEO-M-003

N.C. Public School Allotment Policy Manual, State Allotment Formulas-Transportation of Students, Program Report Code 056 (as modified October 6, 2005)