

**SUBJECT: IDLING SCHOOL BUSES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

The Board of Education recognizes the need to promote the health and safety of BOCES students and staff and to protect the environment from harmful emissions found in bus and vehicle exhaust. In accordance with Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations, the BOCES will minimize, to the extent practicable, the idling of all school buses and other vehicles owned or leased by the BOCES while such bus or vehicle is parked or standing on school grounds or in the front of any school. This policy also applies to component district school buses and contractor owned and operated school buses under contract with the BOCES.

The BOCES shall ensure that each driver of a school bus or other vehicle from districts and owned, leased or contracted for by the BOCES turn off the engine of the bus or vehicle while waiting for passengers to load or off load on school grounds, or while such vehicle is parked or standing on school grounds or in front of or adjacent to any school.

**Exceptions**

Unless otherwise required by State or local law, the idling of a school bus or vehicle engine may be permitted to the extent necessary to achieve the following purposes:

- a) For mechanical work; or
- b) To maintain an appropriate temperature for student comfort when there are medical needs; or
- c) In emergency evacuations where necessary to operate wheelchair lifts.

**Private Vendor Transportation Contracts**

All contracts for pupil transportation services between the BOCES and a private vendor that are entered into on or after August 21, 2008, shall include a provision requiring such vendor's compliance with the provisions of reducing idling in accordance with Commissioner's Regulations Section 156.3(h).

Education Law Section 3637  
Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 142  
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 156.3(h)

**Adopted: May 13, 2009**