

Approved by PTAC on June 9, 2011

Proposed addition to the MDE Advisory Practices and Guidelines

School Bus Evacuation Drills

In order to strengthen student safety for pupils that are transported on school buses, it is recommended that each local and intermediate school district (in coordination with contracted pupil transportation providers, if applicable) develop policies and procedures that every school bus driver conduct an emergency evacuation of pupils from the school bus at least three (3) times per year (front, rear, and front/rear combination). If an evacuation drill is unable to be performed due to the pupil's physical/mental limitations, a written evacuation plan should be developed and accessible to any driver of a school bus with such pupils. Records of these school bus evacuation drills should be maintained in the transportation office for a period of two (2) years.

Student safety is a top priority of Michigan Department of Education. It is important for students to be aware of and understand school evacuation procedures for all educational settings, including the school bus. The Michigan Department of Education, upon the recommendation of the Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee, recommends the implementation of this practice for all pupil transportation providers.

Revised February 22, 2011

Revised March 8, 2011, adding "physical/mental limitation" sentence.