

**Tonganoxie USD 464
Board of Education Policy**

IGG - Transportation of Students

School transportation services will be provided within the limitations of available resources for transporting students to and from USD 464 public schools, and for transporting students to and from curricular and extracurricular activities sponsored by USD 464. The district will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to school bus transportation.

The State of Kansas reimburses school districts for transportation of students to and from school who live 2.5 miles and over from their school. The Tonganoxie School District will transport these students without charge. However, school districts in Kansas receive no funds for transportation of students living less than 2.5 miles from their school. Due to fiscal constraints, the Tonganoxie School District will begin a Pay-to-Ride program for transporting students to and from school who live less than 2.5 miles from the school and within the school district boundaries. Students who are approved for the National School Lunch Program “free or reduced lunch” will not be charged for transportation, providing they live within the boundaries of the district. Applications are available at school buildings and must be on file at the school office and be approved prior to eligible transportation.

Busses carrying school children will be considered extensions of the school situation. All students using school bus transportation will abide by the school district’s approved code of conduct posted on each bus. Violations of the code, as well as other conduct that is improper or jeopardizes the safety of other students, will not be tolerated. Such violations will be reported by the bus driver using the appropriate procedure, and violators may be denied use of school transportation.

The bus driver will be responsible for the bus at all times from departure until return. Drivers will not participate in any activity that might impair their driving ability. Drivers shall be courteous to students and parents.

Transportation Eligibility

- All students enrolled in USD 464 public schools residing 2.5 miles or more from school, and within the school district boundaries are eligible for transportation to and from school without charge.
- Students enrolled in USD 464 public schools living less than 2.5 miles from school are eligible for transportation under the “Pay-to-Ride” Program if they meet the specified criteria listed below.
- Students with certain disabilities may be transported without charge.
- Transportation for students who are not eligible is the responsibility of the parent.

Students are **not** eligible for transportation to and from school if they live along or inside the following boundaries:

- 24/40 Highway – north boundary
- 14th Street – south boundary
- East Street – east boundary
- Evans Street – west boundary

Pay-to-Ride Program

The district will provide transportation for any student living less than 2.5 miles from school and within the boundaries of the school district on a pay basis. The Tonganoxie School District will continue to provide free bus transportation for all of its students who reside 2.5 miles or more from school.

Transportation is offered on a space available, first come, first served basis. Eligibility for Pay to Ride is based on the student's home address, not the location where the student boards the bus. Students must be registered with the transportation department by completing the appropriate form. Fees must be paid before transportation can begin and will end if payment is delinquent. Registrations cannot be taken from students or baby-sitters.

To qualify for Pay to Ride transportation, students must:

1. Board a bus within the boundaries of the school district.
2. Pay a semester rate or a discounted yearly rate. Pro-rating of either rate will be available to new students only. All current students qualifying for Pay to Ride will be expected to pay at least the semester rate.
3. Students may cancel and owe no further fees if they:
 - a. Move from the District
 - b. Are determined to be located 2.5 miles or more from a school.
4. Students who live within the district and who have applied, qualified, and have been approved to participate in the free or reduced lunch program will also be eligible to receive free bus transportation.
5. Transportation is on a first come, first served basis for students currently enrolled in Tonganoxie USD 464 public schools.
6. Out-of-district students may pay to ride the bus on the same basis. They must board the bus at the nearest stop within the boundaries of the district.

There are no discounts for students in sports or other activities that make it necessary for the student to use the bus only once a day.

Fees will be set by the school district and reviewed annually.

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