

## **STUDENT AUTOMOBILE USE**

### **A. Transportation To and From School**

The Brunswick School Department provides bus transportation to and from school for students, and families are strongly encouraged to utilize this service. The decision to allow a student to drive a personal vehicle to school is one that rests with the parents, and parents assume full responsibility for their decision to allow students to drive to school. However, in the event that families decide not to utilize the transportation services provided by the Brunswick School Department, student drivers must abide by certain requirements set forth below in Part C.

Brunswick High School students should realize that parking at Brunswick High School is a privilege and should be treated as such. The number of parking spaces is limited so staff and those students who have earned the status of Junior or Senior will be considered first. Exceptions to this procedure may be granted due to special circumstances, and on a case by case basis. Any violation on schools grounds (either parking or moving) may result in the loss of parking privileges.

### **B. School-Sponsored Activities off School Grounds**

Whenever possible, school buses or other school vehicles shall be used to transport students to and from school-sponsored activities that take place off school grounds (i.e., field trips, vocational/technical programs, games and other co-curricular activities). However, in circumstances when it is determined that transportation offered by the school is not possible or practical, or in those circumstances where the Brunswick School Department does not provide the transportation, the Superintendent/designee may authorize, through the use of the travel release procedure, the parent/designee to transport the student.

### **C. Student Driver Responsibilities**

1. All student drivers must have a valid driver's license, a valid Maine registration, and a current Maine inspection sticker for the vehicle.
2. All student drivers must carry, at a minimum, the following insurance limits:  
**\$100,000/\$300,000 in coverage.**
3. In order for a student to drive his/her vehicle to school, a student must complete a Student Driver Request/Registration Form that includes documentation concerning the student's vehicle, insurance, and parental permission. No application will be approved without proof of appropriate insurance and parental permission.
4. A student may not transport another student in his/her private vehicle without the approval of the Superintendent/designee. Approval will not be given if the student driver fails to list the passenger's name on the foregoing Student Driver Request/Registration Form and fails to provide proof of permission of the parent/guardian of the passenger. The transportation of more than one student passenger is highly discouraged and will be allowed only for academic purposes.

5. Students who drive to school must park only in areas designated for student parking.
6. Students may not access their vehicles or leave school grounds during the school day without permission of the building administrator.
7. Students should be aware that any vehicle that they drive to school may be subject to search as provided by the Brunswick School Department policy.
8. Students are to comply with all motor vehicle laws and rules of the road, including the law requiring the use of safety belts.
9. Students will pay attention and refrain from distractions such as cell phones, electronic devices, or anything else distracting the driver.
10. When operating their vehicles on school grounds, student drivers are required to drive safely and obey all traffic/parking rules and must yield to all pedestrians and school buses.
11. All Brunswick School Department conduct policies are in effect when students drive their vehicles from school to school-sponsored activities off school grounds.
12. Student drivers shall make every effort to take the most direct route to reach their destination.
13. The building administrator has the discretion to suspend or revoke a student's driving privileges, deny a student's request that he or she be allowed to transport another student, and impose other disciplinary measures for driving infractions or other violations of Brunswick School Department policies or school rules. The building administrator may also report driving infractions to local law enforcement authorities as he/she seems appropriate.
14. The Brunswick School Department is not responsible for parking or traffic tickets.

*Cross Reference: EEAG - Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students [employee transporting student policy/procedure]*

*JIH - Questioning and Searches of Students*

*Adopted: 4/13/11*