



Environmental Charter Schools ("ECS")

CHILD SAFETY ALERT SYSTEM & TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN

1) INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

- a. This statement of the Board of the Environmental Charter Schools (the "Board") sets forth the policies governing the ECS child safety alert system & transportation safety plan.
- b. The Governance Committee of ECS (the "Committee") is responsible for recommending policies and processes for effective governance at ECS. The policies described here will be used to comply with California Senate Bill (SB) No. 1072 (Mendoza) – Schoolbus safety: child safety alert system.
- c. The Committee will review this statement as needed, but at least annually, to ensure its continued compliance with federal and state laws. Any changes to this policy must be approved by the Board.

2) CHILD SAFETY ALERT SYSTEM & TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN

- a. The Board recognizes that transporting students is a regular occurrence at each of ECS charter schools. Student transportation is necessary for meeting the needs of special education students, as well as for field trips and other school activities such as sports or competitions. Such off-campus activities may supplement and enrich classroom learning and encourage new interests among students.
- b. Student safety is paramount as it relates to student transportation as it is with everything the charter school elects to undertake.

3) MANDATORY CHILD SAFETY ALERT SYSTEM

- a. All school and activity buses shall either be equipped with a child safety alert system or meet the requirements specified below if not equipped with a child safety alert system.
- b. If a school bus is equipped with a child safety alert system, upon movement of the vehicle, the child safety alert system shall be automatically activated. The system shall be mounted to the rearmost portion of the interior of the vehicle and will require manual activation to turn it off.
- c. A school bus is not required to have a child safety alert system if all of the following apply:
 - a. The bus is not used exclusively to transport pupils;
 - b. The pupils are accompanied by at least one adult chaperone selected by a school official;
 - c. If the adult chaperone is not an employee, the chaperone shall meet the requirements for a school volunteer as established by school policy;
 - d. The adult chaperone has a list of every pupil and adult chaperone, including a school employee who is on the bus at the time of departure;



- e. The driver has reviewed all safety and emergency procedures before the initial departure and the driver and adult chaperone have signed a form acknowledging review of the safety plan and procedures;
 - f. The adult chaperone takes and certifies a “head count” prior to each departure and the driver and adult chaperone sign a form verifying that all pupils are present or accounted for;
 - g. After pupils have exited a school bus and before driving away, the driver checks all areas of the bus after pupils have exited.
- d. The purpose of this policy is to ensure student safety and specifically to ensure that all students exit the bus when transportation needs come to an end.
- e. In developing procedures for this policy for use by the School, the Principal or designee shall ensure that the policy reflects the direction and intent of Senate Bill 1072 (Chapter 721 Statutes of 2016) as it was written and also the regulations written by the California Highway Patrol.

4) TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN

- a. The School Director or a designee shall develop a transportation safety plan containing procedures for school personnel to follow to ensure the safe transport of students to or from school or school activities. The plan shall be available for review by Board members and made available upon request to an officer of the California Highway Patrol.

5) MANDATORY NOTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES REGARDING DISCIPLINED BUS DRIVERS

- a. The School Director or a designee shall notify the Department of Motor Vehicles within five calendar days of taking disciplinary action against a driver for leaving an unsupervised pupil on a bus and when the School found the driver’s action constituted gross negligence.