

## 8600.1 HAZARDOUS ROUTES(M)

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The South Orange – Maplewood Board of Education is concerned with the safety of students in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade who walk to and from school along roadways determined to be hazardous routes thus the Board shall adopt a policy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.5. The Superintendent shall develop rules and regulations to supply courtesy transportation for students who must walk to and from school along routes designated by the South Orange-Maplewood School District to be hazardous routes.

The criteria used to determine hazardous routes may include but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Population density;
2. Traffic volume;
3. Average vehicle velocity;
4. Existence or absence of sufficient sidewalk space;
5. Roads and highways that are winding or have blind curves;
6. Roads and highways with steep inclines and declines;
7. Drop-offs that are in close proximity to a sidewalk;
8. Bridges or overpasses that must be crossed to reach the school;
9. Train tracks or trestles that must be crossed to reach the school; and
10. Busy roads or highways that must be crossed to reach the school.
11. Police Department accident history (car and pedestrian)
12. Presence of pedestrian signals and traffic lights and other traffic control devices.
13. Presence of a crossing guard.

The District shall work in conjunction with municipal officials in determining the criteria necessary for the designation of a hazardous route, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.5, and shall maintain a list of all hazardous routes in the District. Students who would otherwise be required to walk to and from school along routes designated as hazardous shall be included in the calculation of the district's regular vehicle capacity utilization. A student's walking route shall be deemed to be the same route the District uses to calculate distance between a student's home and a student's assigned school. The most recent hazardous route and corridor audit reports shall be prominently posted on the District's website.

When a guardian wants to have a student's walking route evaluated for a possible hazardous designation, they should contact the District's Director of Safety & Security regarding their concern and possible evaluation and notify them of the student name and



walking route and leave contact information if a message is left. The route will be assessed using the criteria outlined in Policy 8600.1. After the final determination, the district will take appropriate action and send the results to the family. Additionally, the district shall consult with the Township of South Orange Village and Maplewood Township to determine whether the following routes continue to be designated as hazardous for children walking:

1. Prospect Street – The Intersections from South Orange Avenue to Irvington Avenue.
2. Parker Avenue – Crossing at Prospect Street.
3. South Orange Avenue – Crossing South Orange Avenue without crossing guards is hazardous.
4. Valley Street – Intersection at Millburn Avenue, West Side between Parker Avenue, and 4<sup>th</sup> Street is hazardous due to the numerous commercial driveways.
5. Walton Avenue - East side from Audley Street to Maplewood Avenue and crossing of Maplewood Avenue.
6. South/North Ridgewood Road – Along wester side South Ridgewood Road between Clinton Avenue and Lenox Avenue.
7. South Ridgewood Road – At Highland Place/Hickory Drive and Woodland Road.
8. North/South Wyoming Avenue – Along Crestwood, Tower Drive, Lewis Drive, and Woodhill Drive to get to the east side of North Wyoming Avenue. Crossing from Twin Oak Road, Redmond Road, Blanchard Road, and Brookwood Road across North Wyoming Avenue.
9. Crossing Irvington Avenue – Intersection of Franklin Terrace and Clinton Avenue.
10. West Montrose Avenue – Along West Montrose at the intersection of Vose Avenue to Grove Road.
11. Raymond/Scotland Road – Along Vose Avenue to Raymond Avenue to Grove Road through Scotland Road.

The final determination as to hazardous routes shall be designated by the Transportation Supervisor, School Business Administrator and Superintendent, and approved by the Board.

Adopted: 27 July 2023

First Read: 22 June 2023  
Second Read: 27 July 2023

