

**CRESTWOOD LOCAL SCHOOLS
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
BUS IDLING WORK RULE**

A. PURPOSE

To reduce student and driver exposure to diesel exhaust by limiting unnecessary idling of school buses. The “monitoring” of school bus idling will save money and fuel resources.

B. APPLICABILITY

This work rule applies to district-owned school buses while being operated for the purpose of transporting the school district’s students at public expense.

C. IDLING CONTROL MEASURE

1. When the temperature is 32 degrees or above allow only 3-5 minutes for warm up. **5-MINUTE MAXIMUM**
2. When the temperature is between 5 degrees and 31 degrees allow only 5-15 minutes for warm up. **15-MINUTE MAXIMUM**
**Below 5 degrees see Exceptions - Letter E

D. NO IDLING AT SCHOOLS

Turn off the bus upon reaching a passenger loading/unloading zone at school or other destination and must not turn on the engine until necessary to depart from the passenger loading/unloading zone. When you need to be in radio communication with the Transportation Department or other drivers always put key in **Accessory Position**.

EXTRACURRICULAR FIELD TRIPS

Buses should **NOT** idle while waiting for students during field trips, extracurricular activities or other events where students are off school grounds.

E. EXCEPTIONS

The requirement that a driver of a diesel school bus must turn off the bus and must refrain from idling does not apply for the period or periods during which idling is necessary under the following circumstances:

1. Cold Weather (Heating Equipment)

- If the outside temperature is **below** 5 degrees there is **NO** time restriction on idling to use heating equipment.
- In cold weather, if bus drivers will be at a location for more than 15 minutes, and indoor waiting area is encouraged.
- In cold weather, if the warmth of the bus is an issue, idling is to be at a very minimum and occur outside the passenger loading/unloading zones. The “warmed” bus is to enter the passenger loading/unloading zones as close to pick up time as possible to maintain warmth and then shut down.

2. Safety of Children and Emergencies

- Use of lift equipment during loading or unloading.
- Use of defrosters, heaters or other equipment for safety or health considerations.
- Use of bus headlights or four-way flasher warning lights for visibility purposes.
- For other traffic, safety, or emergency situations.

3. Maintenance of Operations

- To charge a battery of a school bus, if needed or
- For testing to verify that the bus is in safe operating condition as part of the daily pre-trip vehicle inspection, or as otherwise required, including measuring vehicle emissions.
- During layover, between runs, **NO IDLING** unless temp is below 5 degrees.