

*NOTE: Colorado school districts are required by State Board of Education Rules and Regulations to adopt a procedure on this subject, however the specifics are not set forth in the rules. This sample policy contains the content/language that CASB believes best meets the intent of the rules. However, the district should consult with its own legal counsel to determine appropriate language that meets local circumstances and needs.*

## **Use of Wireless Communication Devices by School Transportation Vehicle Operators**

While the Board of Education believes the use of wireless communication devices by district transportation vehicle operators is important to provide instant communication regarding emergencies as well as to convey other important information, vehicle operators shall be subject to the following restrictions to ensure safe use.

For purposes of this policy, wireless communication device is defined as any device intended to facilitate communication, including but not limited to cell phones, two-way radios, walkie talkies, palm pilots, beepers, pagers, etc.

Vehicle operators shall not place or receive communications on any personally owned wireless communication device while passengers are loading or unloading from the bus or while the bus is in motion.

Under usual circumstances, use of district owned wireless communication devices shall be allowed when used to assist a vehicle operator and/or dispatcher in the necessary communications periodically needed to safely deliver children – home to school, school to school, school to home and on activity trips. Use of such devices while the vehicle is in motion shall be limited whenever possible.

Vehicle operators shall under no circumstances place or receive communications unrelated to district business while on duty.

Violation of this policy may subject the vehicle operator to disciplinary action.

Adopted: March 18, 2004

Revised: December 2005, May 2011

LEGAL REFS.: 1 CCR 301-26, Rule 4204-R-232.00  
C.R.S. 42-4-239 (*using a wireless telephone for text messaging while driving is prohibited*)

CROSS REFS.: EDB, Maintenance and Control of Materials and Equipment  
EEAE, Bus Safety Program