SCHOOL BUS IDLING Unnecessary idling of District vehicles will be limited to reduce stu-

dent and driver exposure to vehicle exhaust and improve fuel

economy.

DEFINITION "Idling" means allowing an engine to run while the motor vehicle is

not engaged in forward or reverse motion.

APPLICABILITY These procedures apply to District vehicles being operated for the

purpose of transporting students to or from school or a school-re-

lated event.

The transportation operations staff will revise bus schedules to limit

caravanning and to assign the cleaner operating buses to the

longer routes.

allow the idling of the engine while the vehicle is parked at a school

or school event.

District vehicles should not idle while waiting for students during field trips, extracurricular activities, or other school-related events

on or off school premises.

EXCEPTIONS The limitations provided above do not apply for the time during

which idling is necessary under the following circumstances:

HEATING OR

1. To allow the minimum time necessary to heat or cool a District vehicle before departure, provided that the engine is turned off while loading or unloading students at school or a school-

related event.

ENGINE COOL-DOWN OR WARM-UP

2. To allow for proper engine cool-down or warm-up, as specified by the vehicle manufacturer.

ned by the vehicle manufacturer.

SAFETY 3. To accommodate traffic, safety, and emergency situations or other situations, including:

other situations, including.

a. Use of life equipment while loading or unloading children with one or more disabilities;

with one of more disabilities,

b. Use of the heater or air conditioner while loading, unloading, or transporting children with exceptional needs;

c. Use of the defroster, heater, air conditioner, or other equipment for safety or health considerations; or

d. Use of bus headlights or four-way flasher warning lights

for visibility purposes.

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## MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

4. To charge the battery of a District vehicle or for testing to otherwise verify that a District vehicle is in safe operating condition.

## **COLD WEATHER**

During cold weather, campuses will provide an area inside the school where bus drivers who arrive early can wait. If the warmth of the bus is an issue, minimum idling is permissible and will occur outside the school zone. The bus will enter the school zone as closely to pick-up time as possible and turn off the bus engine.

## **NOTIFICATION**

All District drivers will receive information and training concerning these procedures at the beginning of each school year.

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