

**Tennessee Schools Bus Specifications Policy 2.400**

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**The Background:**

Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-2115 specifies, “Notwithstanding any rule of the state board of education to the contrary, all school buses purchased by an LEA or private contractor to transport school students shall meet national minimum school bus standards and all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards.”

At its July 2019 meeting, the State Board approved updated bus specification to incorporate applicable sections of the National School Transportation & Procedures manual adopted by the 16th National Congress on School Transportation.

This final read item makes a correction to change the body build date the new policy is applicable to from July 1, 2019 to January 1, 2020 (page 1). The item also proposes to amend the specifications to include a child alert/reminder system that was intended to be included in the 2012 and 2020 standards (page 15). This is a technical correction only, and all buses purchased in the interim already have this safety feature.

**The Fiscal Analysis Impact:**

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.