The use of 12 and 15 passenger rated vans for student transportation is illegal.

Kansas law KSA 72-64,100 prohibits the use of any passenger vehicle, for student transportation, which is rated for more than 10 passengers plus the driver by the manufacturer. Federal law also prohibits the use of these vans and contains substantial penalties for schools, rental agencies and vehicle dealerships.

The rated capacity can be found on the Tire and Loading Information sticker which is normally located on the inside driver’s door.

The passenger rating is determined by the vehicle manufacturer and cannot be changed by anyone other than the manufacturer.

It is illegal to remove seats from a 12 or 15 passenger rated van to meet the mandated passenger requirement for student transportation. This would apply to both a school and/or a dealership if the intention is to circumvent the mandated passenger rating for school transportation.

Pictured below is 2016, 15 passenger rated Ford Transit Van. It is illegal under both federal and state law to use this vehicle for student transport.
Pictured below is 2017, 12 passenger rated Chevrolet Express Passenger Van. It is illegal under both federal and state law to use this vehicle for student transport.

Pictured below is a 2016, 10 passenger rated van. This van is legal for student transport. It is legal for both route and activity transportation. A valid drivers license is required.

Note: If the driver of this van, or any school passenger vehicle, is primarily hired to provide transportation, the driver would be required to have: DOT physical, First Aid / CPR, accident prevention course and 10 safety meetings.

72-64,100. Transportation of pupils; use of school bus required; when. (a) Except as provided by subsection (b), any school district or nonpublic school transporting students in a vehicle designed for transporting more than 10 passengers in addition to the driver, shall transport such students in a school bus, as defined in subsection (g) of K.S.A. 72-6486, and amendments thereto, or in a bus other than a school bus designated in clauses (3) and (4) of subsection (c) of K.S.A. 72-6486, and amendments thereto.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), any school district or nonpublic school which has purchased and has placed into operation prior to July 1, 2001, any motor vehicles designed for transporting more than 10 passengers, but less than 15 passengers, and is not a school bus, may continue to operate such motor vehicles for the purpose of transporting students until July 1, 2005.

History: L. 2001, ch. 142, § 1; July 1

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.