

Rules for Riding a School Bus

Prior to Loading

*Wait for the bus in a safe place, well off the roadway. Arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes ahead of the scheduled bus time.

*Keep the roadway clear of books or other personal belongings. Never play in the path of traffic. Stand well away from the roadway when the bus approaches. Wait until the bus stops before approaching it to board.

*Do not damage the property of others, such as flowers, shrubbery, etc. while waiting for the bus.

*If crossing the roadway is necessary to board the bus, wait to cross after the bus has stopped and the driver has signaled it is safe to cross.

*NOTE: Misbehavior at the bus stop, or on the way to and from the bus stop, is subject to disciplinary action also.

While on the Bus

*Obey the instructions of the bus staff. The driver of the school bus is in complete charge of the passengers.

*When boarding, make sure shoes are cleaned of mud, etc. and proceed promptly to the seat assigned by the driver. *Athletic shoes with spikes, cleats, etc. must be taken off before boarding the bus.

*Preschool students must sit with the school bus monitor.

*Books and other belongings should be held in the students' lap. Band instruments or other large objects may be transported only if they can be held in the students' lap. Items may NOT block the aisle or doorway.

*Keep noise at a minimum and refrain from unnecessary conversation with the bus driver. The driver must be able to focus attention on the roadway and be able to hear warnings of emergency traffic, etc.

*Students shall not extend any part of their body outside the bus window.

*Students who damage any part of the bus will make restitution for damages and disciplined according to the Code of Conduct.

*Eating, drinking, chewing gum, etc. are not permitted on the bus. There is to be no cans, bottles, etc. on the bus.

*Possession or use of tobacco products is not permitted.

*The use of profanity and/or obscene gestures will result in automatic suspension from the bus.

*Students shall not bring radios, etc. on the bus. Any radio or communication system must be approved by the Superintendent and the Transportation Director and will be under the control of the bus driver.

*No balloons are permitted on the bus.

*Students must sit facing forward on the bus.

*In case of an emergency involving the school bus, students shall remain seated on the bus unless the driver has given instructions to evacuate.

*Bus rules apply to ALL activity trips. If a student loses their privilege to ride a school bus to and from school, it includes ALL buses, including activity trips.

When Exiting the Bus

*Students are to remain in their seats until the bus has come to a complete stop. Preschool children are to be met at the bus stop by the parent/designee. If someone other than the parent is to be at the bus stop, the parent MUST send a note advising who the person will be. If no one is at the bus stop, the preschooler will be brought back to school.

*Students are permitted to leave the bus only at their designated stop. Any change must be made in writing by the parent and approved at school by the principal or designee. If students go home with another student, ALL students must have a written approval from the school principal or designee.

*If students must cross the roadway, the student shall go ten (10) feet in front of the bus and wait for the driver to signal it is safe to cross. NEVER cross the road behind the bus.

***WARNING FOR PARENTS:** Strings on coats and/or straps on backpacks or bags may endanger the life of your child. All handrails on our buses are in compliance with manufacturer recalls. Please remove items hanging from book bags, backpacks, etc. and advise your child to watch strings carefully.

Penalties

The following procedure will be used in handling student misconduct:

Level I Offense: eating/drinking; leaving seat; littering; minor disruptive behavior

Consequence: assigned seats

Level II Offense: disruptive behavior such as pushing or tripping; infractions while boarding or departing the bus; minor profanity

Consequence: detention

Level III Offense: minor vandalism; fighting*; hanging out window; smoking; insubordination; major profanity

Consequence: in-school suspension/suspension from school; five (5) day bus suspension

Level IV Offense: vandalism; profanity towards bus driver; hostile insubordination; fighting*; bringing injurious items/weapons on the bus

Consequence: suspension from school; ten (10) day bus suspension with recommendation to Superintendent for removal from the bus

*Fighting which causes injury is a Level IV offense.

**Repeat Level I and Level II offenses go directly to a Level III offense.

***Level IV offenses will involve the Superintendent and the Director of Transportation.

****School administrators will handle Level I-Level III offenses.

Parent signature: ----- date-----

Student signature: ----- date-----

