

**LOWNDES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUS CONDUCT (JCDD) AND FIELD/ACTIVITY TRIPS (IFBC)**

The bus driver has the responsibility for the safety and conduct of students riding the bus. He/she will not allow any type of distracting behavior by students. The right of students to ride a bus is a **privilege** and is **conditional upon good behavior**.

Security cameras, for surveillance purposes, may be installed and utilized on transportation vehicles owned and operated by the Lowndes County School District.

Unauthorized persons, as defined by Mississippi Code 37-41-2, 1973, which state “*It shall be unlawful for any individual, other than a student scheduled to be a passenger upon that particular bus, a member of the public school administration or faculty, or a law enforcement official, to directly or indirectly interfere in any way with passenger ingress and egress or the operation, including unauthorized boarding thereof, of a bus used in public school student transportation unless permission has been obtained as prescribed by pertinent rules and regulations promulgated by the state board of education of the local school authorities*”, are not permitted on any bus.

All bus rules also apply to field trips.

A. General Rules for Riding the Bus

1. Students should be on time at the designated bus stop and should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to load.
2. Students should not leave books, lunches, or other articles on the bus.
3. Students are not permitted to leave their seats while the bus is in motion.
4. Students are expected to be courteous to fellow students and the bus driver.
5. All buses to athletic games or field trips should be scheduled through the school under the direction of a faculty member. Students are required to return to the school on their assigned bus, except with prior parental permission and a note from the parent before leaving the school. Reasonable dress and conduct appropriate to the situation are expected of students.
6. Students must ride their assigned bus. Exceptions must be at the written request of the parent and approved by a building administrator.

B. Specific Rules for Riding the Bus (Violation could result in injury to students or bus property.)

1. Students must keep their hands and heads inside the bus at all times.
2. Students should not indulge in loud talking or laughing that may divert the driver’s attention and make safe driving difficult.
3. Students should never tamper with the bus in any manner.
4. Students should not throw anything out the window.
5. Students should be absolutely quiet when the bus approaches a railroad crossing.
6. Eating, drinking, chewing gum, or using any tobacco products will not be allowed on buses.
7. Horseplay, including pushing and shoving, will not be allowed on the bus.
8. Fighting will not be allowed on the bus and will result in the sanctions described under the fighting policy.
9. Unauthorized and/or dangerous objects are not permitted on the bus. A dangerous object is any object that could injure students or be destructive to the bus.
10. Students will not threaten or be disrespectful to the bus driver. The bus driver’s directions must be followed at all times.
11. Students should not open emergency doors and/or activate emergency alarms.
12. Harassment, of any kind, will not be tolerated.

The sanctions for failure to comply with bus rules are as follows:

- a) 1st offense: verbal warning from the bus driver and written parent notification
- b) 2nd offense: one day suspension from bus and written parent notification
- c) 3rd offense: corporal punishment or 3-day bus suspension, along with written parent notification
- d) 4th offense: 5-day bus suspension, along with written parental notification
- e) 5th offense: suspension from the bus until due process hearing and Board action

Note: The principal must have a parent hearing prior to any recommendation for expulsion from the bus.

Exception: *Students who violate bus rules on field trips or while waiting on the bus at school and/or district-established bus stops will be subject to disciplinary measures.*

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

"Challenging all students to attain their greatest potential."