

Student transportation is a very important part of the education process in our school system. In order to maintain conditions and atmosphere suitable for learning, no person shall enter onto a school bus except students assigned to that bus or other persons with lawful and valid business on the bus.

Students are under the supervision and control of the bus driver while being transported to and from school on his/her bus, and all reasonable directions given by him/her shall be followed. A driver may remove a student in the event that the driver finds it necessary for the safety of the other student passengers or the driver, provided that the driver secures the safety of the ejected student for the uncompleted trip. A driver may assign seats if it contributes to the safety of students. A driver shall report to school authorities as soon as possible any student refusing to obey the driver or exiting the bus without the driver's permission at a point other than the student's destination for that trip.²

The principal of the student transported shall be informed by the bus driver of any serious discipline problem and may be called upon to assist if necessary. A student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus if the principal determines that his behavior is such as to cause disruption on the bus, or if he disobeys state or local rules and regulations pertaining to student transportation.

The suspension of a student from riding the school bus shall follow the same procedures as for any other school suspension.

Any student who gets off the bus at any point between pick-up point and school must present the bus driver with a note of authorization from the parent or the principal of the school that

the student attends. Any student wishing to ride a bus other than his designated bus must have written parental permission and the approval of the principal or his designee.

The school bus is an extension of school activity; therefore, students shall conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior. Students shall conform to the following rules of bus behavior:

1. Students shall remain well back from the roadway while awaiting the bus.
2. Students shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to a seat and remain seated until the destination is reached.
3. Students shall keep their hands, arms, and heads inside the bus.
4. Students shall keep articles such as athletic equipment, books, backpacks, pens, pencils and musical instruments out of the aisle.
5. Use the emergency door for emergency only.
6. Possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco products, weapons and illegal drugs are prohibited.
7. Ordinary conversation is permitted. Loud, boisterous profane language and obscene gestures or indecent conduct will not be tolerated
8. Students will not tease, scuffle, trip, hold, hit or use their hand, feet or body in any objectionable manner.
9. Students will obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
10. Food, drinks and chewing gum are not allowed on buses.

The parent/legal guardian is held legally responsible for any damage to the bus and/or bus equipment by his/her child.

School Bus Rules for Field Trips and Athletic Trips

When buses are used to transport students and/or athletes on school-supported trips the following rules shall apply:

1. The school bus is an extension of the classroom, and classroom rules and policies apply to bus behavior. Consequences for disobedience should be commensurate to those attached to the infraction of classroom rules.

2. The teacher/sponsor/coach is in charge of the students at all times. Teachers/sponsors/coaches are to make sure that all trash is discarded from the bus; avoid cell phone use other than in the case of an emergency; and be in a physical position on the bus that allows for monitoring of student behavior.
3. Prior to a trip, the bus driver and teacher/sponsor/coach will discuss the pending trip and make plans accordingly. These discussions will include if the situation will allow for stops necessary for meals, restroom breaks and the permissive use of allowing students to have water/drinks on the bus. If permitted, only drinks in plastic bottles are allowed.

Appropriate forms will be used to report any problems incurred during athletic and field trips.

USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES

Video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school vehicles transporting students to and from school or extracurricular activities.

Students in violation of bus conduct rules shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with established Board policy and regulations governing student conduct and discipline.

The district shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to video recordings when such recordings are considered for retention as part of the student's behavioral record as determined by the district and in accordance with the law.

Video surveillance shall be used only to promote the order, safety and security of students, staff and property.

The director of schools is directed to develop procedures governing the use of video cameras in accordance with the provision of the law and established Board policies.