

502.7 TRANSPORTATION DISCIPLINE

Each student being transported by the district has the right to a safe and enjoyable ride to and from school that is free from intimidation, threat or harassment. Good conduct is expected of all students while waiting for the bus and while traveling to and from school.

The district has established student behavior guidelines, which apply to all students while on the bus and while in bus loading or unloading areas. Each student, as well as his/her parents or guardians, is responsible for the behavior of that student while on the bus and in bus loading or unloading areas.

Transportation is a privilege that is granted to the student contingent upon proper behavior according to district guidelines. A student's eligibility to ride the bus may be suspended or revoked for a violation of bus safety or conduct policies, or for violation of any other law or policy governing student conduct on a bus. Revoking a student's bus riding privileges is not considered an exclusion, expulsion or suspension from school.

Parents will be held responsible for their children until the student boards the bus and after the child leaves the bus. Parents share responsibility with the child for his/her conduct while on the bus and while in loading or unloading areas.

Students who are involved in serious or repeated incidents of unacceptable student conduct on the bus will have riding privileges suspended or revoked. The parent/guardian of a student suspended from transportation is responsible for the student's transportation. The district will not provide alternative transportation to a student whose privileges have been suspended or revoked. In addition, unacceptable conduct on the bus or at the bus stop may result in suspension or expulsion from school.

In the event a student demonstrates misconduct which is related to his/her disability or handicap, or in the case of a student whose individual education plan (IEP) requires transportation as needed for programming, the stipulations of that student's disability or handicap and/or IEP must be given due consideration in reaching discipline decisions which may restrict transportation. The student's IEP team is the appropriate body to provide decision making authority in such cases. The Director of Special Programs or designee shall be a member of all such IEP teams.

Students who must cross the street must wait for the signal from the driver and must walk 10 feet out from the bumper of the bus. This places them outside the danger zone surrounding the bus. Students must always remain where the driver can see them.

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Certain behaviors are considered unacceptable. They fall into three classifications:

Class I Offenses

- Possession of a handgun, knife or other weapon.
- Possession of ammunition.
- Detonation of a pyrotechnic device on the bus.
- Possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs.
- Assault on the bus driver.
- Attempting to ride on the outside of the bus.
- Bringing a flammable liquid onto the bus. If flammable liquid is for a school project, student must notify the driver in advance and take the precautions advised by the driver.
- Pushing or shoving another student at, or near, a moving bus.
- Running out in front of a moving bus.
- Violent assault on another student.
- Tampering with, or vandalism (in excess of \$50) of the bus.
- Opening any emergency exit, or exiting, or attempting to exit, from a moving bus.

Class II Offenses

- Threatening the bus driver.
- Interfering with a police officer, district administrator, or safety supervisor.
- Use of tobacco.
- Ignition of any type of fire, including matches and lighters.
- Physical aggression, or the threat of physical aggression, against another person.
- Fighting.
- Theft or robbery.
- Possession of a pyrotechnic device.
- Possession of a look-alike weapon.
- Tampering with emergency equipment including 8 light system, radio and emergency exits.
- Extending head, arms, or legs out of window while the bus is in motion.
- Chasing or running beside a moving bus.
- Throwing or shooting an object, or objects, at the driver or out of the bus window.
- Distracting the bus driver.
- Bringing dangerous objects (by use, not necessarily by design) onto the school bus (other than weapons or flammable liquids).
- Riding while under suspension of transportation privileges.
- Pushing or shoving another student in the bus danger zone.
- Willful damage to property of other students or of property at the bus stop.

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- Unacceptable sexual conduct.
- False identification or refusal to provide the driver with the student's name.
- Failure to follow safe crossing procedures.
- Vandalism of the bus.

Class III Offenses

- Throwing or shooting objects around the bus.
- Failure to follow the driver's instructions.
- Standing while the bus is in motion.
- Failure to cross ten feet in front of the bus.
- Use of obscene or profane gestures or language.
- Harassment in any form.
- Boarding, riding, or exiting on a bus other than the assigned route.
- Shouting, yelling, screaming or excessive noise.
- Tripping a student.
- Blocking the bus aisle.
- Spitting.
- Horseplay.
- Possession of a lighter or matches.
- Possession of squirt guns, water balloons, liquid containers or any type, shaving cream, or eggs.
- Possession of cap guns or other obviously toy weapons.

Any violation not directly listed above will be evaluated on a case by case process. The administrative review will determine the class of the violation.