

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Arrival and Departure

Bus contractors must arrange the schedule of their drivers to ensure that students do not arrive at any school more than 20 minutes before the starting time for that school.

There is one important rule about departure. Students must not be forced to run to catch a departing bus which is leaving too early. Principals will establish earliest possible departure times and drivers must adhere to them. Buses are to always depart from the same location each day.

Misconduct

A bus driver may, in the case of flagrant misconduct, inform the student that his/her bus riding privileges are immediately suspended until the principal of the school has taken action regarding the misconduct. No student may be put off a bus between home and school. If a driver feels a student must be put off, the principal and/or the transportation coordinator shall be notified of the incident the same day. The action of the principal with the student may range from a reprimand to a permanent loss of bus privileges.

Minor difficulties should be dealt with on an individual basis by bus drivers. The assistance of principals in the handling of discipline referrals is readily available.

Rules for Student Bus Behavior

1. Abusive language is prohibited on school buses.
2. No smoking will be permitted on a school bus.
3. No use or transport of alcohol or drugs (except drugs carried through arrangements by parents and schools) will be permitted on a school bus.
4. No rough or disorderly physical misbehavior will be permitted on a school bus.
5. Riders must not extend any part of their bodies through a school bus window.
6. The emergency doors of school buses are for emergency use only.
7. Riders will remain seated throughout the ride; standees, where permitted, will act with reasonable caution to minimize risk to themselves. It is requested that, where standees are permitted, older children offer seats to younger or disabled children. The general rule is courtesy and regard for the welfare of others.
8. Students being transported are under the authority of the bus driver. He/she is required to report rule violation.
9. Continued disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to authority of the bus driver is sufficient cause for a student to be refused transportation on school buses.

Adopted: December 27, 1977

Legal References: Elementary Student/Parent Handbook, page 9
Middle School Handbook, page 30
High School Handbook, pages 44-5
Vocational High School Student/Parent Handbook, page 16