

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

The students are responsible for their behavior on the bus and their behavior could affect the safe operation of the bus. Misbehavior could result in the bus driver being distracted. Such distractions could endanger the lives of all students being transported. Therefore, behavior infractions must be reported and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with these guidelines.

Parents are requested to explain the importance of proper behavior on the school bus. They are also expected to help their child change his/her behavior.

The primary responsibility of the driver is to safely transport the students to and from school. While transporting the students, the driver also has the responsibility of maintaining discipline on the bus. Therefore, the driver will report behavior infractions to the proper authority.

Behavior Guidelines and Consequences

The following behavior will not be permitted on the bus. The behaviors are grouped according to the seriousness of the offense. More serious misbehaviors will result in moving to Major Infractions -- first offense, second offense or third offense. The behavior consequences will escalate if the student insists on repeating the unacceptable behavior.

Bus Rules

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Sit in assigned seat, facing forward and feet on the floor.
3. No swearing or loud obnoxious behavior.
4. No eating or drinking on the bus. Students are only allowed to eat or drink on the bus for select out-of-town events and are expected to clean up any messes that may occur.
5. Do not litter, write on or damage the bus or anyone else's property in any way.
6. Boom boxes are not allowed on the bus at any time.
7. Students are not allowed to get off any place other than home without written permission from parent or guardian along with Principal's signature.

Minor Infractions

Failing to follow rules 1-7 will result in the following consequences.

Minor -- First Offense: Driver conferences with the student, identifies the infraction, writes the bus conduct report with copies to the parent/parents and building Principal and also calls the parent/parents.

Minor -- Second Offense: Driver conferences with the student, identifies the infraction, writes the bus conduct report with copies to the parent/parents and building Principal and also calls the parent/parents.

Minor -- Third Offense: Driver conferences with the student, identifies the infraction, and writes the bus conduct report with copies to the parent/parents and the building Principal. The building Principal will contact the parent/parents, review the student's behavior record and suspends the riding privileges for one to five days. All succeeding offenses in the minor category will be treated as a Major Infraction - first offense, second offense, and then third offense.

Major Infractions

Major misconduct includes:

- a. Hanging out of window.
- b. Throwing or shooting of any object.
- c. Physical aggression against any person.
- d. Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol or any controlled substance.
- e. Vandalism to bus. Student will be expected to make restitution.
- f. Lighting matches, firecrackers, or any flammable object or substance.
- g. Holding on to or attempting to hold on to any portion of the exterior of the bus.
- h. Extreme disrespect toward the bus driver.
- i. Others as determined by Transportation Supervisor.

Minimum Consequences For Major Infractions

Major -- First Offense: Driver conferences with the student, identifies the infraction, and writes the bus conduct report with copies to the parent/parents and building Principal. The building Principal contacts the parent/parents, reviews the behavior incident, and suspends the student's riding privileges for five days. The parent/parents and student must attend a conference with the building Principal and the driver before riding privileges are reinstated.

Major -- Second Offense: The same procedure will be followed as outlined in the first offense. However, the riding privileges will be suspended for ten days.

Major -- Third Offense: The same procedure will be followed as outlined in the first offense. However, the riding privileges will be suspended for fifteen days. Any succeeding offenses will result in immediate suspension of riding privileges and the case will be presented to the school board with a request for action by the school board.

These are the minimum consequences. Depending on the severity of the offense the consequences could be more severe. All these guidelines and consequences are in accordance with state and federal laws.

Approved: June 31, 1995

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