

SCHOOL BUS RULES

1. **DRIVER'S AUTHORITY:** Pupils on a school bus are the complete responsibility of the bus driver and under his/her direction. Pupils must be courteous and show respect for the driver, and obey the driver's instructions at all times.
2. **BUS STOP ASSIGNMENT:** Students may not get on or off the bus at any location other than their regularly designated stop unless a written note is provided to the principal and driver.
3. **BUS DEPARTURE TIMES :** Students should be at the bus stops at least 5 minutes prior to bus arrival; buses must operate on a definite schedule and drivers will not wait for late arrivals. Students are not to arrive at the stop more than 10 minutes prior to the departure time. *Continued late arrival to the bus stop will result in disciplinary action.*
4. **BOARDING THE BUS:** As the bus approaches, pupils must form an orderly single-file line and stand no closer than ten feet. Students shall not move toward the bus until it has come to a complete stop. Pupils must enter the bus one at a time, with no pushing or shoving.
5. **SEAT ASSIGNMENT:** Pupils are to take the seat indicated by the driver. They may not exchange seats without the driver's permission.
6. **PUPILS MUST REMAIN SEATED:** Pupils must sit upright, face the front of the bus, keep feet out of the aisle, and in no way obstruct aisles or bar progress of other pupils in or out of the bus. Standing, walking, or any movement out of seats while the bus is in motion is prohibited.
7. **HANDS/BODY OUT OF WINDOWS:** Pupils may not extend hands, arms, head, or any part of the body out of the window on a school bus. Unauthorized exiting from emergency doors and windows is prohibited.
8. **TAMPERING WITH BUS EQUIPMENT:** Tampering of any kind with bus doors emergency exits, radio or controls is prohibited.
9. **PUPILS MAY NOT SMOKE:** Smoking, or the use of tobacco products, or lighting of any material is prohibited.
10. **EXCESSIVE NOISE/DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** Pupils are prohibited from creating disturbances, such as whistling, playing musical instruments, yelling or talking loudly, throwing articles, shooting rubber bands, scuffling, etc. Pupils shall quietly converse only with those pupils sitting in the same seat that they occupy. Distractions and noise inside the bus must be kept to a minimum so that the driver can hear or observe approaching emergency vehicles, horns or other impending hazards.
11. **PROFANE LANGUAGE/GESTURES:** Using profane language or obscene gestures is prohibited.
12. **LITTERING:** Littering or throwing objects of any kind is prohibited.
13. **FIGHTING:** Pupils may not interfere with others, nor destroy property of others. Students may not intimidate or threaten anyone on the bus. They must keep their hands to themselves: fighting, slapping, hitting, poking, shoving, pulling hair, etc., on the bus or at the bus stop is prohibited.
14. **EATING/DRINKING:** Drinking or eating, including gum and candy, is not allowed on school buses.
15. **PROHIBITED OBJECTS:** Items such as glass containers, large or dangerous objects are not allowed on the bus. Transporting live animals, fish, reptiles, or insects, is not permitted on the school bus.
16. **DAMAGE TO SCHOOL BUS OR BUS STOP:** Students may not damage or vandalize the school bus or the bus stop. Parent/guardian will be required to pay for damage done by their child to either the school bus or to private property at school bus stop location.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

The policies listed shall be followed by students when being transported via Board or Board owned vehicles, including activity buses.

1. Students should observe classroom conduct (except for ordinary conversation) at all times when getting on, off, or riding the bus.
2. Students will board and leave the bus only at an approved stop.
3. Students having to stand because of a lack of seating space, shall stand as far back in the bus as possible but not against the emergency door.
4. Students should not attempt to talk to the bus driver while the bus is in motion.
5. Students will not throw objects on the bus nor off the bus at any time.
6. Students are not to get off the bus at any time from the point of departure until they reach their destination except in cases of emergency.
7. Students should not have their arms or any parts of their bodies out of the windows at any time.
8. Students should remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop, no moving around while the bus is in motion.
9. The bus driver has full authority over the students while they are riding the bus; he/she will be firm but fair with each student.
10. Profane, indecent, or abusive language will not be permitted.
11. Students must exercise proper care and treatment of the bus and bus equipment at all times. Abuse and damage to the bus must be paid for by the student or his/her parent or guardian.

Student transportation for selected activities is provided by the Board as a service to the students of the School District. The Board reserves the right to deny a student or students the privilege of being transported at public expense provided the policies outlined above are not followed.

It is the parents' responsibility to provide transportation for their child(ren) to and from school activities. However, school transportation may be used for transporting athletic teams, bands and other groups to events in which they participate. When transportation is furnished to a student beyond normal school hours, it shall become the responsibility of

the principal and the sponsor of the activity to contact parent or guardian to arrange for the student to be picked up at the school or at a point designated in writing by the principal or sponsor and agreed upon by the parent or guardian. Under no circumstances shall the principal, sponsor of activity or bus driver leave the student at a point without the assurance of safe transportation home. The designated pick up points for parents will be the same throughout the school year.