

BUS TRANSPORTATION

We have 36 bus routes in our transportation system besides the numerous extra-curricular trips. The drivers transport approximately 2500 students. Students riding school buses are subject to all of the school rules and regulations. Proper conduct is an important factor for the safety of all children riding buses. The school bus driver shall be responsible for discipline on the bus, just as the teacher is in the classroom. Upon the recommendation of the bus driver, school authorities will deny the privilege of riding on the school bus to any student who refuses to conduct himself or herself in an appropriate manner on the bus. A notification to parents in the form of a school bus discipline report should be followed for any misbehavior that distracts the driver. Driving a school bus is a serious profession and we are concerned for the safety of everyone. For minor infractions the driver may deal with the students and their parents prior to issuing a disciplinary report.

BEFORE THE BUS ARRIVES:

1. Leave home on time each day.
2. Walk facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.
3. Arrive at the pick-up spot at least five minutes before the bus.
4. Wait off the roadway, not in the street.
5. Stay off people's lawns and private property.

BOARDING THE BUS:

1. Wait for the bus to come to a full stop.
2. Be polite and take your turn getting on the bus.
3. Use the handrail.

LEAVING THE BUS:

1. Do not leave your seat until the bus comes to a full stop.
2. Take your turn; don't crowd in front of others.
3. Use handrails.
4. Watch your step.
5. Look both ways and check for turning cars before you cross the street.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY AND WHEN THE DRIVER MUST LEAVE THE BUS:

1. Stay seated.
2. Do not touch emergency equipment.
3. Depend on the driver's training to take care of the situation.
4. A responsible older student will be acquainted with emergency procedures.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Scott County School District 2 has over 2500 students traveling daily to and from six school buildings. In addition to daily transportation, students often travel to extra-curricular activities during the school day, evenings, and weekends. In the event of an accident involving students, Scott County School District 2 follows these procedures:

1. Parents of injured students are contacted first.
2. Parents of all students are contacted once accurate information can be relayed.
3. The radio station is not contacted in order in order to keep the situation manageable unless it is determined that it is in the students' best interest to contact the media.
4. Medical personnel always check each student at the scene when applicable, but we also transport any student to the hospital who feel they are injured, regardless of their medical evaluation.
5. All decisions are made in the interest of student safety and well-being.

Please remember that many of our buses transport over 60 students at one time. The medical evaluation, parent contact, and transportation of injured students do take time to complete.

Please be assured that our school personnel understand the feelings that the news of a bus accident generates. We strive to treat all children as we would want our children treated in an emergency situation.

CONDUCT ON THE BUS:

1. Follow the directions of the driver at all times. Disruptive behavior of any type is prohibited.
2. Walk to the assigned seat and remain there. Absolutely no standing while the bus is in motion.
3. Do not talk to the driver unless it is an emergency. (Drivers need to keep their minds on driving and their eyes on the road).
4. Talk quietly so the driver can hear traffic sounds.
5. Keep arms, feet and schoolbooks out of the aisles.

6. Do not open or close windows without permission from the driver.
7. Keep hands and head inside the bus. Do not stick or throw anything out of the windows.
8. Loud, profane language and/or yelling is not permitted.
9. Smoking is not permitted.
10. Do not deface or litter the bus.
11. The possession of knives or any weapon-like objects on the bus is forbidden.
12. Tobacco products of any kind are prohibited at the bus stop and on the school bus.

NOTE: Violation of the above rules and regulations may result in suspension of transportation privileges by the principal. Bus drivers have the same authority on the bus and in bus loading areas as teachers do in the classroom with regard to discipline.

Under certain circumstances due to the severity of an infraction, steps may be skipped to address the seriousness of the incident. In addition, any school rule that is violated while riding the bus may also carry additional consequences such as detention, after-school detention, out-of-school suspension, and/or expulsion from school.

Minor offenses: These would include but are not limited to the following:

1. Gum chewing, candy, pop or food on the bus.
2. Littering on or off of the bus.
3. Feet, arms, books etc. in the aisle.
4. Name-calling.
5. Talking loud or yelling on the bus.
6. Yelling out of the window.
7. Opening windows without permission.
8. Switching seats without permission.
9. Being rude or discourteous to other students.
10. Arriving late to bus stop repeatedly.

Procedure:

Verbal warning by driver.

Driver contact of parents.

Disciplinary report resulting in bus probation.

Disciplinary report resulting in a bus suspension 1-3 days.

Disciplinary report resulting in a bus suspension 3-5 days.

Disciplinary report resulting in a bus suspension 5-10 days and a recommendation for bus expulsion for the remainder of the semester or school year.

Severe offenses-These would include but are not limited to the following:

1. Fighting
2. Profanity
3. Drugs, alcohol, tobacco-possession, sale, use, being under the influence of, transportation or distribution. This includes prescription and non-prescription medication that is represented to be another substance or which is in the possession of a student without the school's knowledge or permission.
4. Weapons of any kind. (Guns, knives, razors, razor blades, box cutters, etc.) Any item which may be used as a weapon or is used as a weapon.
5. Insubordination-refusing to follow the directions of the driver. Arguing, or talking back to the driver when given directions.
6. Vandalism-causing damage to the bus inside or outside or the property of others at the bus stop or on the bus.
7. Any safety violation.
8. Throwing objects on the bus, out of the bus window, or at the bus stop.
9. Threatening or intimidating behavior.

Procedure:

Depending on the infraction, any of the following could be employed:

Disciplinary report resulting in a 1-3 day bus suspension.

Disciplinary report resulting in a 3-5 day bus suspension.

Disciplinary report resulting in a 5-10 day suspension from the bus and possibly a recommendation for expulsion from the bus for the remainder of the semester or the year, pending due process.