

HARRISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT - TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
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SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REGULATIONS

The Role of the Students

At the bus stop, students are expected to:

1. remain on the side of the road and be careful of approaching traffic;
2. refrain from pushing and shoving while waiting and boarding;
3. respect private property and the rights of property owners;
4. board the bus in an orderly fashion, after it has come to a complete stop;
5. be alert when leaving the bus;
6. cross in front of the bus, never in back of the bus; and
7. be at the bus top at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up time.

On the bus, students are expected to:

1. cooperate fully with the bus driver and recognize that he/she is in charge and responsible for their safety;
2. use the hand rail when getting on and off the bus;
3. take seats as quickly as possible, use the seat belt, and remain seated throughout the trip;
4. make room on the seat for three riders;
5. keep arms, head, etc. inside the windows;
6. hold books and other belongings on their laps (packages which can be held on the students lap are permitted; large packages, school projects, musical instruments and sports equipment may not be carried on the bus);
7. refrain from making unnecessary noise;
8. make certain that no objects are thrown in the bus or out the windows;
9. refrain from kicking, fighting, or in any way damaging anyone or anything on the bus; and
10. help keep the bus clean and neat.

Smoking is prohibited on school buses or anywhere on school grounds.

While on the bus, students should not distract the driver as it may result in serious injury to all. The bus driver will report any behavioral issues to the Building Principal and to the Supervisor of Transportation.

Bus transportation will be denied to any student who endangers the safety and welfare of students riding on a school bus.

The Role of the Driver

The school bus driver is responsible to provide safe and efficient bus service while transporting the students in his or her charge. In regard to operating regulations, the bus driver must:

1. comply with all state laws and regulations regarding bus driver qualifications and safety;
2. observe local traffic laws, up to a maximum of 55 mph;
3. comply with the law requiring buses to come to a complete stop, open exit door and the driver's window, observe and listen in both directions before crossing railroad tracks;

4. never back up the bus unnecessarily;
5. make no stops other than those listed on the route slips;
6. not carry more students than the prescribed capacity of the bus;
7. allow only authorized students to ride the bus;
8. park only in designated areas for loading and unloading on school grounds, ensuring that there is no walking room between vehicles;
9. not allow students to enter or leave the bus while it is in motion;
10. not allow students to put heads or arms out of open window;
11. keep the school bus halted with red signal lights flashing when discharging students, and until such students cross the road (if necessary);
12. remain in the school bus when students are on board, except in cases of emergency, and then only after following prescribed safety procedures; and
13. not permit smoking on school buses.

The Role of the Building Principal

The Building Principal will assist in ensuring student safety and conduct on school buses. The Principal will:

1. ensure that all staff members, students, and parents understand the rules, regulations and policies relating to the district transportation program;
2. prepare students for boarding the buses safely at scheduled times, and provide adequate supervision at the time of bus boarding and discharging at the school; and
3. revoke the privilege of transportation of students when infraction of rules and regulations necessitate such action.

The Role of the Parent(s) or Guardian

For the safety and welfare of all students, parents must make sure their children understand these rules and regulations regarding behavior on the bus and at the bus stop. When more than five children must wait at a single bus stop, it is recommended that a parent remain until bus pick-up. The District assumes responsibility for the safety and well-being of students while they are on the school bus. Before pick-up and after discharge from the school bus, the well-being of students is the responsibility of parents.

Students in grades 2 through 12 will be let off at the bus stop without a parent or guardian present. Kindergarten and first grade students will not be let off the bus unless a parent or guardian is at the stop to meet them. Your child will be returned to the school if a parent or guardian is not at the stop to receive him or her. You will be responsible for picking your child up from the school.