



# Los Alamitos Unified School District

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## Bus Conduct/Safety Rules

In order that students may benefit from our Home-to-School transportation offered at Los Alamitos USD, the Board of Education feels a strong, effective discipline code must exist and be enforced. It is to everyone's advantage that students respect the rights, feelings, and property of others and face the consequences of their actions when they do not. Students who fail to comply with these rules and regulations shall be subject to disciplinary action. All school personnel and parents have a shared responsibility to enforce school rules and regulations and take the necessary action to correct school behavior that is inappropriate or interferes with the functioning of the school. To ensure the safety of everyone, students must abide by the following District rules and California state laws:

1. 5 CCR 14103 states, "Pupils transported in a school bus...shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus."
2. Pupils shall be aware of the "Danger Zones" (see exhibit E) around the school bus
3. Students are expected to respect themselves, others, and their property.
4. Do not engage in vandalism, destruction of property, or graffiti. Repair costs will be billed to the guilty pupil(s) and their parents.
5. Wheelchairs should be pre-inspected for Safety prior to utilizing the bus.

### Bus Stop:

1. Please arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is due.
2. Do not litter at school bus stops or in the school bus.
3. Orderly behavior is required at the bus stop.
4. As the bus arrives, form a line and stand at least twelve feet from where the bus stops. Do not move toward the school bus until the bus comes to a complete stop and the bus driver has opened the door.

### Boarding the bus:

1. Do not bring animals (except registered service animals), glass objects, skates, large, bulky, or hazardous articles on the school bus.
2. Athletic equipment will be allowed on the bus if necessary for students participation in an enrolled class or team. It should be safely stowed as to not cause a safety hazard.
3. Show the driver your bus pass or bus ticket. **Passes are non-transferable.**
4. Follow the bus driver's instructions. Bus drivers are authorized to assign seats, assign (3) pupils to a seat bench, assign seat mates, and other actions as needed for safe transportation of pupils.
5. Walk, do not run, in an orderly manner when on the bus.
6. Go directly to a seat. Remain seated at all times, facing the forward. If school bus is equipped with seat belts, pupils must use them.

### Aboard the bus:

1. Keep all body parts inside of the bus. Do not spit or throw anything in or out of the school bus.

2. All electronic signaling devices, including cell phones, shall be set to silent or vibrate upon entering the school bus. Use while on the bus is limited to purposes related to health and safety.
3. Talk quietly. Do not shout, yell, or use profane language or gestures, or behave in a boisterous manner. Do not engage in unnecessary conversation with the bus driver so they can concentrate while driving.
4. Remain quite as the school bus stops at and crosses railroad tracks.
5. Do not bring weapons of any type.
6. Do not use any writing instruments while on the bus.
7. Do not possess or use tobacco, drugs, or alcohol. Do not vape.
8. Do not eat, drink, or chew gum.
9. Do not play or tamper with any part of the school bus.
10. Shoes must be worn at all times. Wearing cleats is not allowed.
11. No changing on the bus.

Exiting the bus, and leaving the drop-off location:

1. Exit the bus only at your designated bus stop. Note: a one-day request for an alternate drop off location requires a parental note.
2. Follow the bus driver's instructions.
3. Remain properly seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and the door is opened.
4. Move toward the front of the bus in an orderly manner.
5. If you cross the roadway the bus stops on, notify the bus driver. Follow the bus driver's instructions as you are escorted across the roadway.
6. Exit the bus in an orderly manner.
7. Immediately move out of the "Danger Zone" to the right front, right, or right rear of the bus if you do not need to be escorted across the roadway.
8. Do not attempt to return to the bus without first getting the attention of the bus driver.
9. Do not talk to strangers or accept rides from strangers.

**Note:** Audio/video recording equipment is used aboard buses for safety/security monitoring.

### **Discipline Procedures**

14263. Authority of the Driver. Pupils transported in the school bus shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation in accordance with regulations of the governing board of the district.

Violation of Rules of Conduct will result in detention, lunch detention, or immediate denial of transportation as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> infraction: detention or 1-day of riding privilege
- 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction: detention or Saturday school or loss of 5 days of riding privilege
- 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction: loss of between 5-20 days of riding privilege
- 4<sup>th</sup> infraction: loss of between 20-60 days of riding privilege
- 5<sup>th</sup> infraction: Remainder of the year

**Note:** There will be no refunds for days a pupil's bus riding privileges are suspended/revoked.

Parents/guardians as well as students should be familiar with the regulations. For any questions, please contact Ricardo Villanueva, Transportation Supervisor, at (562)799-4700 ext. 81111.