

Behavioral Expectations and Consequences for Students While Riding in School Buses and Other School Vehicles

While on school property or while under the supervision of school authority (including going to and from school), no student shall violate any laws or regulations of the School Board and the school. The Code of Virginia, § 22.1-176, permits School Boards to provide transportation for pupils; however, the law does not require that transportation be provided except as cited in § 22.1-221, transportation of students with disabilities. Riding a school bus is a privilege. Students and their parents will be informed that violations of standards set forth in the Code of Student Conduct on school buses will be cause for a referral to a school administrator and shall result in appropriate disciplinary penalties including having their riding privileges revoked for a specified time or permanently. Bus conduct rules shall apply to all students in all situations in which the use of school buses is permitted, such as: regular transportation to and from school; field trips; athletic trips; special after-school activities; transportation from base schools to locations where specialized educational programs are available; and any trip involving the use of a school bus/vehicle to transport students for a school activity.

Expectations for Behavior of Bus Passengers

Proper behavior is required of students to and from school, at bus stops and while riding the bus to assure that the property rights of others are respected. The driver of the bus has the authority and the responsibility to maintain order and safe conditions on the bus. When the driver requires assistance to resolve a potentially harmful situation, the schools served by the driver will render assistance. On the first day of school, drivers shall discuss school bus safety and proper bus behavior with students.

The following expectations for bus passengers are not all inclusive. The School Board or principal may invoke disciplinary measures for conduct not listed here, but which, by common understanding, would be considered detrimental to the safety of all bus riders.

Bus passengers shall:

1. show respect for fellow students and the driver;
2. follow directions the first time they are given;
3. keep all objects and themselves inside the bus;
4. use ear phones when using personal listening devices;
5. refrain from throwing objects;
6. stay in their seats while the bus is in motion;
7. refrain from cursing, swearing, talking loudly or teasing;
8. refrain from pushing, shoving or fighting;
9. refrain from littering or damaging the bus;
10. refrain from eating or drinking;
11. refrain from recording, videoing or photographing; and
12. meet all expectations stated in the Code of Student Conduct.