

Chapter 3301-83 of the Ohio Administrative Code contains operation and safety rules regulating pupil transportation, and governs all pupil transportation in Ohio. Compliance with these rules is mandated under Ohio Revised Code 4511.76.

1. **Bus Stop Location and time.**-Students shall arrive at the bus stop before the bus is scheduled to arrive. (ORC -3301-83-08). We ask that your student be at the stop five (5) minutes in advance of the scheduled arrival time. Pupils in grades kindergarten through eight may be required to walk up to one-half mile by state law. Our transportation department strives to make bus stop locations that are efficient and safe for all riders. Bus stop locations address many issues: maximum safety of pupils, distance from residence, traffic volume, visibility, and physical characteristics. We are not able to put a bus stop in from of each student's house. (ORC 3301-83-13)
2. **Student behavior while on the school bus.** (ORC 3301-83-08). Student behavior on the bus should be the same as in the classroom. The drivers' primary responsibility is to operate the school bus on Ohio roadways in a safe manner.
3. **Sitting in a seat on the bus.** Each student shall sit in a position which will provide maximum protection by the seat back. (ORC 3301-83-18). Students are asked to sit in the following manner: **back to back, bottom to bottom, and feet to floor.** Any other manner is unacceptable and unsafe. Back packs and other items are to be kept in their laps.
4. **Place of Safety.** (ORC 3301-83-13(B)(6)). This seems to be a problem area that we really need your assistance with. A place of safety is a location clear of traffic and away from the bus stop designated by the driver. In the morning students are to be at their place of safety prior to the bus arriving at the stop. In the afternoons, students are to remain at the place of safety until **after** the bus has departed. Reason for this rule is to ensure all students are accounted for and no one has gone under or near the bus. Parents **PLEASE do not** call your child to your location until the bus has departed. Majority of injuries and fatalities take place when a student gets off the bus and does not go to the place of safety. This only takes a few seconds but it is a vital part of our safety program across the state.
5. **Hand Signals** – Every day a school bus is passed while students are boarding or exiting a bus while the red lights are in operation. The driver will provide hand signals to your students indicating it is safe for them to board the bus or cross the street. The driver is checking the mirrors and making sure there is no traffic passing the bus. Please ensure your students follow the hand signals. It is for their safety.
6. **Danger Zone** -Danger Zone around a school bus is the area 10 feet around the bus. The two most dangerous areas are 1) Front of the bus and 2) Right rear tire area. The driver is not able to see these areas!!! Stay out of these areas.