

SCHOOL BUS RIDER INFORMATION

The following is a brief explanation of some guidelines regarding school-provided transportation. The safety and well being of students while on a school bus is a joint venture involving the students, the parents/guardians, the bus drivers, and the school campuses.

Students on a district school bus are under the supervision of the school just as when on campus. Therefore, the same basic rules of conduct apply at school and on the school bus.

There are certain provisions relating to safety and conduct on the buses that all persons involved need to know:

1. The bus driver has the authority and responsibility to correct students while riding the bus, and to report any misconduct and violations of safety rules to the Transportation Coordinator.
2. The Transportation Coordinator is empowered and authorized to discipline a student for the infraction of the rules that occur while on the bus under the same basic policies that apply at school.
3. Bus riding privileges may be denied if: (1) conduct on the bus is determined to be unsatisfactory, (2) a student's actions endanger the safety or well being of other riders, (3) a student's personal behavior violates the right and privileges of other bus riders.

The cooperation of all parents/guardians is solicited in order to provide the maximum safety and well being of all bus-riding students.

RIDER RULES

1. Be at the designated school bus stop on time. The driver cannot wait for students who are continually late.
2. Students should wait off the road for the bus.
3. Students are not to move toward the bus or attempt to enter the bus until the bus comes to a complete stop.
4. Students shall enter the bus only when the driver is present and has given permission.
5. While on the bus, classroom conduct shall be followed except for conversation in ordinary tones.
6. Students must load and unload from the front of the front door only. The use of the Emergency Exit Door shall only be used when directed by the driver.
7. Students must sit down in their assigned seats as soon as they board the bus.
8. Students must sit in their assigned seats each day. The driver may change the seating arrangement at any time, as he/she deems necessary.
9. Students must keep all parts of their body inside the bus.
10. Students shall treat the bus equipment appropriately. Damage to seats or other equipment, must be paid for by the person(s) responsible.
11. Students must keep the aisle clear of books, packages, band instruments, etc.
12. Students will not throw anything inside, at, or out the window of a school bus.
13. Students are not allowed to eat or drink while on the bus.
14. Students must remain seated at all times, with their backs against the back of the bus seat, and their feet on the floor.
15. Students shall not talk to the driver while the bus is in motion, except when necessary.
16. Students must be absolutely silent while approaching and while stopped at a railroad crossing.
17. In the event of an emergency, students must remain in the bus unless directed by the driver to leave the bus and then students shall follow the instructions of the driver.
18. No student will be allowed to ride an unassigned bus unless that student provides a written permission slip from a parent or guardian.

Sweeny Independent School District school bus drivers are **required** to complete a "**Bus Conduct Report**" containing as much information as possible in reference to a violation. The report will be given to the Transportation Coordinator and consequences will be as followed:

CONSEQUENCES

1st Offense – Student will receive a verbal warning.

2nd Offense – Student placed on probation.

3rd Offense – Student denied riding privilege. (3 days)

4th Offense – Student denied riding privilege (5 days)

5th Offense – Student denied riding privilege (10 days)

6th Offense – Student denied riding privilege at the discretion of the Transportation Coordinator.

Further offenses – Student will be denied riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Parents will be notified on all offenses and will be given time to arrange for alternate transportation should a child receiving a bus suspension.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The use of excessive physical violence and/or fighting with a fellow student, school bus driver, or other school official, or being in possession of an illegal weapon will result in immediate bus suspension.