

**MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**



**SCHOOL BUS RIDER  
GUIDE**

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Moreno Valley, CA 92555  
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[www.mvusd.net](http://www.mvusd.net)

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**SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation costs are partially offset by School Bus Pass fees. Bus passes may be purchased at the District Central Registration, or on the District website ([www.mvusd.net](http://www.mvusd.net)). All riders must display bus passes before boarding.

Low-income families may be eligible for exemption from fees, but must submit a separate application.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Moreno Valley Unified School District may provide transportation for students who meet the following requirements: (1) students that have an Individualized Education Program requiring it, (2) students whom an accommodation is appropriate under the terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act, (3) Elementary students (grades K-5) or Secondary students (grades 6-8) for whom the walking distance from their primary residence to their school of attendance is greater than 2.5 or 3.5 miles respectively as measured from the nearest pedestrian entrance of the campus along public streets, (4) students residing within walking boundaries, where the primary residence is located within areas identified by the district as safety zones. Distance is measured using computer software maintained by the District Transportation Department.

Busing must be requested from the student's primary residence, by the student's legal parent/guardian. Students for whom joint custody has been ordered by a court may use either parent's address inside the District boundary.

**PROHIBITED ITEMS**

Students must not bring animals, glass, aerosol products, tobacco/nicotine products, dangerous objects, flammable or controlled substances, radios, balloons, skateboards, scooters, laser pointers or other personal electronic devices on the bus.

Bulky items such as class projects or musical instruments may be carried only if the item does not displace any rider, does not obstruct the aisle or emergency exit, and does not obstruct the driver's vision in any direction. The District and the school bus driver are not responsible for loss of personal property.

**BUS STOPS**

School bus drivers are only allowed to pick up and release students at the student's designated bus stop. All bus stops are pre-approved and assigned by the District. Students not eligible for a bus pass may not ride a bus during home-to-school transportation.

**BUS STOP SAFETY**

Students are expected to respect the privacy and property of homeowners near the bus stop, and conduct themselves in an orderly manner while waiting for the bus. Littering, smoking, throwing any object, vandalism, dangerous play, taunting animals or harassing of others may result in loss of the riding privilege.

Parents are responsible for their children's behavior at the bus stop, and may be held financially liable for damage to property caused by their students. Parents should never allow their students to take toys, balls or games to the bus stop.

Students should be at the bus stop, on the proper side of the street, at least five minutes before their pickup time. Parents are cautioned against allowing students to arrive unsupervised at bus stops excessively early.

As the bus arrives, students must stay in line, at least twelve (12) feet from the curb, and not move toward the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the school bus driver has instructed the students to board.

Once the driver has closed the door and pulled away from the stop, the driver will not stop for students late to the stop. Students must never run after or along the side of moving buses.

Because the District is located in one of the most congested areas of the county, buses may be delayed without warning. Parents are encouraged to wait with their students at the stops, and to discuss with their students what to do in the event the bus is late.

When returning home, students in grades K through 12 who need to cross the street on which the school bus is stopped will be escorted by the driver. Students must wait for instructions from the driver before crossing.

Students must always cross the street in front of the bus. Students must walk, not run, completely across the roadway and continue moving away from the roadway. If students forget anything on the bus or drop something in the roadway, they are to tell the driver. They are not to run back into the roadway once they have crossed.

Students are expected to go directly home from the bus stop.

**RELEASE FROM RESPONSIBILITY**

Kindergarten and special-education students are required to have a designated person at the bus stop to receive them.

The parent or guardian of a special-education student may apply for Self-Release status through the Special Education Department that may allow the student to be released alone. This status must be reapplied for each school year.

If a kindergarten or special-education student cannot be released to the parent or designated responsible party, the school bus driver will return the student to school.

**AUTHORITY OF THE DISTRICT**

Education Code Section 44807 states that pupils are accountable to the District for their actions from the time they leave home in the morning until they return home in the afternoon.

**AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**

The California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 14103, states:

*Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway, or road. 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.*

**DENIAL OF TRANSPORTATION**

Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a student to be denied transportation. The Board of Education shall adopt rules and regulations to enforce this provision.

**EJECTION OF STUDENTS**

The driver of a school bus shall not eject any school student unless the student is given into the custody of a parent or guardian, any person designated by the parent or guardian or school, or a school or District administrator.

## SCHOOL BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

School bus rules of conduct are established to ensure students a safe ride to and from school. The school bus is an extension of the classroom and appropriate behavior is expected of all riders.

While on the bus and at bus stops, students are expected to follow all School Behavior Standards, which are contained in the Parent-Student Handbook.

Violations of School Behavior Standards that take place on school buses may result in serious consequences, including suspension or expulsion from school.

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES

### **1. Follow the Driver's Instructions**

School buses are just like classrooms; the adult is in charge. Drivers may assign seats and students are directed to remain seated until dismissed.

### **2. Stay Out of the Danger Zone**

The area around a school bus is called the Danger Zone (see the diagram on this page).

### **3. Remain Seated, Facing Forward**

School bus seats are specially designed to protect passengers. They are only effective if riders face the front and stay in their seats until the driver tells them to stand up and exit.

### **4. Fasten Seatbelts**

When a school bus is equipped with a passenger restraint system, all passengers shall be required to be properly restrained by that system while the bus is in motion.

### **5. Keep Hands, Feet and Objects to Yourself**

On the bus, fighting, pushing, horseplay or throwing something might distract the driver and cause an accident. Students must keep all parts of their body inside the bus, and never throw anything out the window.

### **6. Be Polite and Talk Quietly**

Everybody on the bus has the right to a safe, orderly environment. Bullying will not be tolerated. Students need to use good manners and talk quietly only to the riders in the same seat with them.

### **7. No Eating, Drinking, Smoking or Gum**

Eating on the bus may create a choking hazard, cause someone to slip, or attract germs and insects. Buses are considered district property and are tobacco-free.

Bus drivers are instructed to stop and secure the bus in the event student behavior makes continued operation unsafe. School administrators or law enforcement officers may be called to assist bus drivers if necessary.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS

School bus drivers report violations of School Bus Safety Rules to school administrators, who may assign a range of consequences, which may include:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Parent Notification
- School Bus Riding Contract
- Parent Conference
- Suspension of Riding Privilege
- Revocation of Riding Privilege

## EMERGENCY EXITS

Emergency exits shall only be opened in case of emergencies or instruction by designated adult.

Each school year, the bus driver shall provide appropriate instruction in emergency evacuation drills. As part of this instruction, students shall evacuate the school bus through an emergency exit door. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.

Each student who receives home-to-school transportation in a school bus shall be required to receive this instruction.

## THE DANGER ZONE

Inside a school bus is among the safest places your child can be. Outside the school bus, children (and adults) must be very careful to avoid serious injury.

**Please show this diagram to your students and make them aware of the Danger Zone.**

## VIDEO/AUDIO RECORDING EQUIPMENT

To ensure the safety of students and staff, all Moreno Valley Unified School District buses are equipped with audio and visual recording equipment. Policies regarding the utilization of video/audio equipment can be found in School Board Policy 5131.1 and will be the responsibility of the Director of Transportation.

## COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS

We ask that each students temperature is below 100.4°F, free of any COVID symptoms, and has not been in contact with a COVID positive individual prior to leaving the home. A parent/guardian must escort all TK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students to, and remain at the bus stop until student has boarded. If student(s) exhibit COVID symptoms they will not be allowed to board the bus and will need to be escorted home by the parent/guardian.

While waiting for the bus please be respectful of others, maintain social distance, and wear your mask.

A properly worn facemask will be required to board and is to remain on for the duration of the ride.

