

Transporting Unsafe Items

CDE Regulations 4204-R-223.01 School transportation vehicles shall not transport any items, materials, or equipment which in any way would endanger the lives, health, or safety of the students and school transportation vehicle operator. In addition, any item or items, which could break or produce injury if tossed about inside of the school transportation vehicle shall be properly stored or secured to reduce the danger to minimum. In addition, the school transportation vehicle operator shall make a reasonable and prudent determination that all carry-on items are properly handled in order to minimize the danger to all others. 223.02 All aisles and exits shall be clear of luggage and/or equipment when transporting students.

The following considerations will always prohibit a large item from being transported on a Douglas County school bus:

1. The item may not take up an entire seat.
2. The item may not protrude into the aisle at all.
3. The item may not protrude above the back of the seat.
4. The item may not lay on the floor unsecured without tie-downs.
5. Skateboards and portable scooters are prohibited.
6. Flags are prohibited unless they can be broken down and fit completely in a closed bag.
7. The item may not be made of glass or be a sharp object, that could be a danger to others in the event of a sudden stop or accident.
8. No item that could be used as a weapon or turn into a projectile is allowed.
9. Student must be able to hold securely in their lap without obstructing their face and upper torso

Student safety always takes priority over equipment. Students that arrive at stops with items that are considered unsafe will be told that they cannot ride the bus with said item. The student may need to return the item home and figure out an alternate means of transportation. The Driver must immediately contact Dispatch and inform them of the student's situation. Dispatch will obtain the student's name for documentation purposes and determine a plan of action.