



## TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES AND RULES

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district's Contracted Transportation Manager under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the Principal. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Contracted Transportation Manager and Principal.

Palmer Bus follows the current COVID-19 guidelines provide by the State of Minnesota. To stay informed about public schools in Minnesota. For additional resources and information about Minnesota's response to COVID-19, please visit [mn.gov/COVID19](http://mn.gov/COVID19) and [staysafe.mn.gov](http://staysafe.mn.gov).

### Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the school bus.

### Consequences

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with co-curricular and extracurricular events

(for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

<b>Class I offenses:</b>	<b>Class II Offenses:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spitting</li> <li>• Excessive Noise</li> <li>• Horseplay/mischief/distracting behavior</li> <li>• Eating/Drinking/Littering on the bus</li> <li>• Leaving Seat/Standing without permission from driver</li> <li>• Use of liquid containers in any form</li> <li>• Profanity, Verbal Abuse, Harassment, Obscene gestures, or possession of unacceptable material</li> <li>• False Identification/Refusal to identify oneself</li> <li>• Riding unassigned bus</li> <li>• Opening window past the safety line</li> <li>• Riding or attempting to ride any bus during a bus suspension</li> <li>• Disobedient to the driver/para</li> <li>• Inappropriate Cell Phone Use</li> <li>• Other offenses as reported by driver, bus manager, or principal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hanging out of window</li> <li>• Throwing/shooting of any object</li> <li>• Bullying and/or physical aggression against any person</li> <li>• Profanity/threats directed at driver/para</li> <li>• Vandalism to bus (restitution will be made)</li> <li>• Holding onto/or attempting to hold onto any portion of the exterior of the bus or any "Danger Zone" infringement</li> <li>• Lighting of matches, lighters, or any flammable object or substance</li> <li>• Unauthorized entering or leaving bus through exit/tampering with bus</li> <li>• Possession or threat of weapons/flammables</li> <li>• Possession/use of laser pens or pointers</li> <li>• Any offense committed on any bus outside of regular transportation to and from school (activity, field trip, shuttle) will carry a minimum of a penalty of a Class II first offense</li> <li>• Other offenses as reported by driver, bus manager, or principal</li> </ul>

**Consequence Summary (Bus Driver has the authority to assign seats at any time)**

**Class I:**

1<sup>st</sup> offense  
Warning

2<sup>nd</sup> offense:  
1-2 day suspension from riding the bus

3<sup>rd</sup> offense:  
3-5 day minimum suspension from riding the bus  
Parent/ Driver/ Principal Meeting-Optional resumes

4<sup>th</sup> offense:  
6-10 day minimum suspension from riding the bus  
Parent/Driver/Principal Meeting Required before riding resumes

5<sup>th</sup> offense:  
Loss of bus service

**Class II:**

1<sup>st</sup> offense:  
3 day suspension from riding the bus

2<sup>nd</sup> offense:  
4-6 day minimum suspension from riding the bus  
Parent/Driver/Principal Meeting – Optional

3<sup>rd</sup> offense:  
10 day minimum suspension from riding the bus  
Parent/Driver/Principal Meeting Required before riding

4<sup>th</sup> offense:  
Loss of bus service

The bus and bus stop are extensions of the school day. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats. The harassment policy, the weapons policy, and bullying policy of District #2167 will be strictly enforced on the school bus.