

BUS RIDER INFORMATION

California Education Code permits the transportation to and from school and school-related activities aboard District-owned and operated school buses or by other means prescribed by law. The governing board of a school district, with the approval of the County Superintendent of Schools, may provide student transportation to and from school whenever, in the judgement of the board, such transportation is necessary.

The Ocean View School District transports students aboard District-owned and operated buses. The District provides transportation to Special Education students who qualify through an IEP as well as students participating in school-sponsored extra-curricular and athletic events throughout the school year. Providing safe, efficient, and timely bus service to every student bus rider is our primary concern.

The District Administration and Board of Trustees have established policies and procedures in accordance with California laws and regulations to ensure the safety of all students transported aboard school buses to and from school. These policies and procedures are outlined in the pages to follow.

SAFE RIDER CONDUCT

We believe all students can behave appropriately and safely while riding on a school bus. All students and staff are expected to treat others with courtesy, care, and respect.

WALKING TO BUS STOPS

A list of designated bus stops is available at the school office and at the Transportation Office. Students shall load/unload only at designated bus stops or school loading zones.

For safety, parents should walk the route to and from the bus stop with their student. Parents should help the student identify landmarks to recognize both the proper stop and the route home.

BUS LOADING PROCEDURES

Students are expected to be at their designated bus stop five (5) minutes prior to the time the bus is scheduled to depart from the stop. For students who are arriving late and are across the street upon which the bus stops, the District buses are properly equipped, and our drivers adequately trained to administer an

escort in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 22112.

Students boarding buses at either a designated bus stop or school loading zone must remain on the bus and be transported to their destination (school or home). Students need to stand in a straight, orderly line approximately 12 feet from the curb when waiting for the school bus to arrive at the bus stop. It is inappropriate for students to play in the street or in neighbors' yards while waiting for the school bus.

BUS UNLOADING PROCEDURES

Drivers follow detailed route sheets which indicate right and left turns; designated bus stops and those stops requiring a student escort consistent with California Vehicle Code Section 22112(c).

Additionally, substitute drivers ask at each bus stop if students need to cross the street upon which the bus is stopped. All drivers are adequately trained to administer an escort in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 22112(c).

Students are to remain seated until the driver tells them to exit the bus. All students needing to cross the street must wait for the driver to escort them. Students are only to cross the street in front of the bus and are to follow the driver's instructions. Parents are requested not to give directions to their children which may conflict with the safe escorting procedures.

BUS DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The District's Board of Trustees has adopted specific administrative procedures concerning bus discipline. A violation of the rules and regulations may result in a loss of bus riding privileges. Disorderly Conduct Citations are cumulative and not necessarily for the same offense. Bus drivers will inform students when a Disorderly Conduct Citation will be filed with the Principal. Consequences for misconduct are administered the school site administrator.

ATHLETIC AND FIELD TRIPS

General rules of conduct applicable to regular to and from school transportation also apply to education, athletics, and other trips. Below are safe riding rules applicable to such trips.

Students may board buses only when the school bus driver and certificated staff and/or chaperones are

present. Teachers, coaches, and chaperones will ride on the buses to and from the destination.

STANDARD RELEASE FORM

All parents/guardians of kindergarten and special education students must complete a Standard Release Form. This form indicates whether the student must be met at a bus stop and, if so, by whom. These forms can be obtained from the school office or from the bus driver. Once completed and returned, it is kept on file in the Transportation Office. If a form is not on file or the designated person is not at the bus stop, it is our policy to return the student to their school.

OTHER INFORMATION

BUS EVACUATION DRILLS

Transportation Department staff conduct bus evacuation drills each school year for all students in accordance with State regulations. The safety of all bus riders is greatly served through the practice of these bus evacuation drills.

HAZARDOUS ARTICLES

State regulation requires that the freight, baggage, or other objects carried on a school bus be safely secured or stored in a manner that will not result in passenger discomfort or injury. All aisles and emergency doors/windows must remain clear. Students may only transport items that can be contained on their lap so that every bus rider will have an adequate and safe place to sit. Glass containers and live creatures are prohibited by law. Parents and students must arrange for other transportation when large, bulky items must be taken to and from school.

LOST ITEMS ON BUSES

Students may retrieve lost items from the bus drivers on the next school day. When not retrieved, such items are turned over to the lost and found in the Transportation Department.

BUS OPERATIONS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Occasionally, school buses are delayed due to reduced visibility during rain and fog conditions. Information about late buses may be obtained by calling (714) 848-5257.