

UPPER LAKE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Department RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR RIDING SCHOOL BUSES

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The State of California and the School Districts have established rules and regulations for the safe transportation of your child. The law states that: *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 bus driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation. A bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus enroute between home and school or other destinations. 5CCR 14103*

The following are the rules and regulations that **ALL STUDENTS MUST** abide by when riding a school bus. **Riding a school bus is a privilege not a right.** Riding privileges **may be denied** to any student who violates these rules and/or causes serious or habitual problems for the driver.

1. FAILURE TO FOLLOW DRIVERS INSTRUCTIONS OR DIRECTIVES.
2. ALL PASSENGERS WILL WEAR LAP/SHOULDER BELTS IF BUS IS SO EQUIPPED.
3. STUDENTS ARE TO REMAIN PROPERLY SEATED FACING THE FRONT OF THE BUS AT ALL TIMES. NO FACING TO THE REAR IN THE SEATS. NO MOVING SEATS UNTIL DESIGNATED BUS STOP (OR) WHILE BUS IS IN MOTION.
4. NO LEGS, FEET OR OBJECTS OBSTRUCTING THE AISLE.
5. NO PUTTING ANY PART OF THE BODY OR THROWING ANY OBJECTS OUTSIDE OF THE BUS.
6. PERSONAL BELONGINGS, BOOKS, INSTRUMENTS, PROJECTS, ETC. MUST BE HELD ON STUDENTS LAP AND REMAIN IN A BAG. LARGE ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE HELD ON STUDENTS LAP WILL NOT BE TRANSPORTED ON THE BUS. NO BALLOONS THAT WILL OBSTRUCT DRIVERS VIEW.
7. NO PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS SUCH AS BODY SPRAY, COLOGNE, PERFUME, OR ITEMS THAT MAY AFFECT ALLERGIES.
8. NO OPENING/CLOSING OR TAMPERING WITH THE BUS EMERGENCY EXITS.
9. NO OPENING/CLOSING WINDOWS WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM DRIVER.
10. NO EATING OR DRINKING (WATER IS O.K. IF IN A PLASTIC BOTTLE).
11. NO GLASS CONTAINERS ALLOWED.
12. NO ANIMALS OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING RODENTS, REPTILES OR INSECTS WILL BE ALLOWED.
13. NO DISRESPECT, DEFIANT CONDUCT, FIGHTING, HITTING, ROUGH BEHAVIOR, HORSEPLAY, (KEEP HANDS/FEET TO YOURSELF), EXCESSIVE NOISE, SHOUTING, BOISTEROUS BEHAVIOR, PROFANITY, VULGUR OR OBSCENE GESTURES DIRECTED TOWARD DRIVER OR OTHER STUDENTS.
14. NO BULLYING, RACIAL OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT.
15. NO COMMITTING ROBBERY OR EXTORTION.
16. NO VANDALISM OR DAMAGE TO THE BUS.
17. ALL STATE LAWS AND SCHOOL RULES REGARDING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND/OR TOBACCO, FIREARMS, KNIFES, EXPLOSIVES, OR OTHER DANGEROUS OBJECTS APPLY TO RIDING THE BUS OR WAITING AT A BUS STOP.

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PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES:

To ensure the safety of all students on a school bus, parents/guardians responsibilities include the following:

- Parents/guardians will ensure their children arrive at the designated bus stop five (5) minutes prior to scheduled arrival time of the school bus. The bus driver will not wait for students not at the Loading area or making an effort to reach the bus.
- Notes from parents/guardians requesting their student be dropped off at a stop other than his/her designated stop are required for grades Kindergarten thru 8th grade. These requests must be made in writing, signed and dated by the parent/guardian, school site and received by the driver/ transportation department.
- Parents/guardians will be responsible and may be required to reimburse the school district for any Vandalism to a school bus committed by the student. Parents/guardians will be notified by the School if their student has been involved in behavior leading to damage of a school bus.

CONDUCT AROUND SCHOOL BUSES

WHILE WALKING TO SCHOOL BUS STOPS

1. Do not walk in the center of the road.
2. Walk facing traffic.
3. Walk single file as for off roadway as practical.

RED LIGHT CROSSING (CROSSING THE ROADWAY)

1. Driver gets out of the bus first
2. Students to cross only when driver instructs them to.
3. Once crossed, students are to stay on that side of the road.
4. Cross in a timely manner in front of the driver.
5. Cross ONLY at stops designated for crossing roadway.

BUS LOADING ZONE

1. Stand in line.
2. Be at bus stop 5 minutes before pickup time.
3. No horseplay or throwing items at bus stop.

SCHOOL BUS DANGER ZONES

1. By the front of the bus
2. Behind the bus.
3. If you can't see us in the mirror, we can't see you.

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:

If a student is denied riding privileges indefinitely, parents may appeal the decision to the Director of Transportation.

Rules for riding school buses will be strictly enforced. Suspensions may occur for repeat offenders.

To appeal a decision made regarding bus riding privileges, follow the steps below:

1. Contact the Director of Transportation: Adam Lawson, 275-2338 EXT. 3302.
2. Meeting with parent, student and Director of Transportation: Adam Lawson, 275-2338 EXT. 3202.
3. Meeting with Superintendent/Principal.

Any violation of these rules may be sufficient reason to discontinue bus transportation privileges to the student involved and may cause suspension or expulsion from school bus.

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I have read these rules or had them read to me and agree that I will abide by the rules and I Understand that if I do not follow the rules, I may lose my privilege of riding the school bus to and from school, including my privilege of riding on the bus if I participate in school activities.

Separate pages, keep first and second page for your records and reference by you and your child.

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT

Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Student Name _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____