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STUDENT CONDUCT ON BUSES BP/AR 5131.1

Bus transportation is a privilege extended to students who display good conduct while preparing to ride, riding or leaving the bus. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to comply with the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a student to be denied transportation. The Superintendent or designee shall establish regulations related to student conduct on buses, bus driver authority, and the suspension of riding privileges. The Superintendent or designees shall make these rules available to parents/guardians, students and other interested parties. (5 CCR 14103).

Bus Rider Rules The following rules apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, district-chartered or district-contracted buses including when on school activity trips. The following conduct is a violation of district bus regulations:

1. Riders shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times. (cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)
2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop on time and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus. (cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)
3. Riders shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.
4. Riders shall sit down and fasten any passenger restraint systems. Riders shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.
5. Riders shall not block the aisle or emergency exit with their body or personal belongings. Riders may bring large or bulky items, such as class projects or musical instruments, on the bus only if the item does not displace any other rider or obstruct the driver's vision.
6. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgarity, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.
7. Any noise or behavior that could distract the driver, such as loud talking, scuffling or fighting, throwing objects, or standing or changing seats, is prohibited and may lead to suspension of riding privileges. (cf. 5144 - Discipline)
8. Riders shall not use tobacco products, eat, or drink while riding the bus. (cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
9. Riders may bring electronic devices onto the bus only if such devices are permitted at school. If the use of cellular telephones or similar devices disrupts the safe operation of the school bus, the bus driver may direct the student to no longer use the device on the bus. (cf. 5131 - Conduct)
10. Riders shall not put any part of the body out of the window nor throw any item from the bus.
11. Riders shall help keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment.
12. Service animals are permitted on school transportation services; all other animals are prohibited. (Education Code 39839; 13 CCR 1216) (cf. 6163.2 - Animals at School)
13. Upon reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus comes to a complete two stop and upon the signal from the driver, unfasten any restraint system, enter the aisle, and go directly to the exit.
14. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow the district's transportation safety plan when crossing the road and exiting the bus. (cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)
15. Having dangerous objects, glass, weapons, etc., on bus.
16. No Fighting or abusive body contact on or off the bus
17. Riders shall give proper identification when requested by driver.
18. Possession, use, or sales of a controlled substance.

19. Any action that is determined by the bus driver to be dangerous. The driver or any passenger shall report any violation of the district's bus rules to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the misbehavior, determine the severity of the misconduct, and take action accordingly. In instances of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined appropriate by the principal or designee. Bus drivers shall not deny transportation services except as directed by the principal or designee.

Authority of the Driver (5 CCR 14103)

Pupils transported in a school bus or in a school pupil activity 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. A bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus enroute between home and school or other destinations.

If it is determined by the principal or designee, in consultation with the Transportation Department that a rider is guilty of misconduct, the principal or designee will initiate the following actions:

1. Upon the first offense of misconduct, the rider and their parent/guardian will be given notice and warning.
2. Upon a second offense of misconduct, the rider will be denied transportation services for a period not to exceed two weeks.
3. Upon a third offense of misconduct, the rider may be denied transportation services for the remainder of the school year.

Bus Surveillance Systems Students are prohibited from tampering with the bus surveillance system. Any student found tampering with the system shall be subject to discipline and shall be responsible for the costs of any necessary repairs or replacement. Camera supports may be installed in all buses, and cameras may be rotated among the buses and activated at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. The content of any recording is a student record and may only be accessed in accordance with the district's policy and administrative regulation concerning student record. Please visit the Transportation website at <https://transportation.fresnounified.org> or call 559-457-3138 if you have any questions.

TRANSPORTATION SCHOOL BUS EMERGENCY TRAINING B.P. 3543 E.C. 39831.5 (a) All pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in public or private school who are transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety. The county Superintendent of schools, Superintendent of the school district, or owner/operator of a private school, as applicable, shall ensure that the instruction is provided as follows: 1. Upon registration, the parents/guardians of all pupils not previously transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus, and who are in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 6, inclusive, shall be provided with written information on school bus safety. The information shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: A. A list of school bus stops near each pupil's home; B. General rules of conduct at school bus loading zones; C. Red light crossing instructions; D. School bus danger zone; and/or E. Walking to and from school bus stops. 2. At least once in each school year, all pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, who receive home[1]to-school transportation shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, proper loading and unloading procedures, including escorting by the driver, how to safely cross the street, highway, or private road, instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, as described in paragraph (3), proper passenger conduct, bus evacuation, and location of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit. As part of the instruction, pupils shall evacuate the school bus through emergency exit doors. 3. Instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, when a passenger restraint system is installed, shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: A. Proper fastening and release of the passenger restraint system; 2024–2025 PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK 65 B. Acceptable placement of passenger restraint systems on pupils; C. Times at which the passenger restraint systems should be fastened and released; and D.

Acceptable placement of the passenger restraint systems when not in use. 4. Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding on a school bus or school pupil activity bus shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, location of emergency exits, and location and use of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit. E.C. 39831.5 (b) The following information shall be documented each time the instruction required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) is given. 1. Name of school district, county office of education, or private school; 2. Name and location of school; 3. Date of instruction; 4. Names of supervising adults; 5. Number of pupils participating; 6. Grade levels of pupils; 7. Subjects covered in instruction; 8. Amount of time taken for instruction; 9. Bus driver's name; 10. Bus number; and 11. Additional remarks. The information recorded pursuant to this subdivision shall remain on file at the district or county office, or at the school, for one (1) year from the date of the instruction, and shall be subject