BUS SAFETY GUIDELINES

On occasion, Cardiff School District students may take bus transportation when attending a field trip. The bus driver will review safety rules with students. Parents can help by ensuing that students know and follow these rules to keep themselves and others safe.

Walking to the bus

- Be on time. Give yourself plenty of time to reach the bus. Walk quickly, but don't run.
- Walk safely. Stay on sidewalks, if there are none, walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic. Cross the street only at intersections or crosswalks. If possible, walk with a "buddy."
- Stay away from the side and rear of the bus. It's not easy for the driver to see near the back tires, close to the sides, or right in front of or behind the bus. Move away from the bus where the driver can see you.
- If you must cross the street at your stop, wait for an "all clear" signal from the driver before you leave the curb. Look both ways before crossing and always cross in front of the bus.

Waiting for the bus

- Don't run around or play while waiting for the bus. Behavior that may be appropriate for the playground can be dangerous at the bus stop.
- Stay out of the street. Traffic is often heavy in the morning. You could be hit by a car or cause and accident if you're too close to the street.
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- Use a quiet voice while you wait so others are not disturbed.

Getting on the bus

- Stand back from the road as the bus approaches.
- Form a single line in front of the door. Don't push or shove – wait your turn.
- If you have to cross the street when the bus has stopped, look both ways before stepping into the street. Motorists are required to stop, but don't always comply. Never cross between parked cars. Stay far enough out in front of the bus that you can see the driver and the driver can see you.
- Use the handrail when climbing aboard the bus. Leave room for the student in front of you to climb aboard safely.
- Move quickly but carefully toward your seat, making sure you don't bump into other students with your backpack or other items you may be carrying.
- Sit down right away so you're not standing when the bus begins to move – you could lose your balance and hurt yourself or another student. If your bus has seat belts, you must buckle up.

Riding the bus

- Be quiet. It's OK to talk quietly with people near you, but never scream or yell. The driver needs to concentrate on the road. Too much noise or sudden yells or screams could distract the driver.
- Stay in your seat. Never kneel or stand on the seat.

Do not get up and walk around

- Keep the aisle clear. Nothing – including books, backpacks, legs, or arms – should block the aisle.
- Keep yourself and your belongings inside. If you are permitted to open the window, keep your hands, arms, head, and all objects in the bus.
- Never throw anything while riding the bus – either out of the windows or in the bus.
- Share your seat. Don't argue about who sits next to you. This prevents other students from quickly and safely boarding the bus.
- Always obey the bus driver and adult supervisors.

Getting off the bus

- Pay attention. Be organized and ready to leave when the bus reaches your destination. Don't keep the driver and others waiting while you gather your belongings.
- Stay in your seat until the bus stops. Don't push or shove while getting off.

In case of emergency

- Stay calm.
- Listen to the driver and follow directions.
- Older children should help by setting a good example and assisting younger children.

Bus Surveillance Systems

Bus transportation may be equipped with a surveillance system that may be used to monitor student behavior while traveling to and from school activities. The contents of such monitoring may be used in student disciplinary proceedings or referred to local law enforcement, as appropriate. A prominent notice shall be place in busses that are equipped with such systems.