

CODE OF CONDUCT

It is essential to the mission of providing safe, efficient transportation for the students of Wichita Falls ISD that the students display proper conduct. Only well-behaved students will be afforded the privilege of student transportation. Automatic disciplinary action will be taken with students who:

1. Willfully or through negligence cause damage to the bus.
2. Their behavior is such that it harms or causes embarrassment to their fellow students, bus driver, or school or in any way interferes with the safe operation of the bus.

The school bus is considered an extension of the classroom, and the same rules of conduct apply on the bus that would in school. Video and audio recording cameras are used to monitor safety and student discipline. In the interest of maximum safety, the following regulations will apply to all students while they ride a bus:

1. The driver is charged with the safety of the students and the vehicle and is to be always obeyed.
2. Students who show disrespect for the driver will face disciplinary action.
3. Students should be at their assigned stop 10 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Drivers cannot wait for tardy students.
4. When waiting for a bus, students should be at least ten feet back from the street and at their designated stop.
5. Students must wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before attempting to get on or off the bus.
6. Students traveling from school must get off at their assigned school or designated bus stop, only.
7. Students must ride the bus to which they are assigned. Bus hopping will result in disciplinary action.
8. Unauthorized riders are not allowed on the bus. Drivers will refuse transportation to those with whom they are not familiar.
9. Backpacks should be positioned on the student's lap or on the floor between the legs and feet and the bus aisle should be kept clear of objects and knees/feet.

Wichita Falls ISD outsources student transportation to our partner, GoldStar Transit (GST).

10. Students should not carry any object on the bus that cannot be held on their lap including large band instruments, school projects, etc. There is no provision for safe storage of such articles on the bus.
11. Seatbelts are to always be worn and properly fastened.
12. Students need to maintain a low-level voice when conversing with friends.
13. Unnecessary conversation with the driver is unsafe and is not permitted.
14. For the safety of all passengers there is no talking at railroad crossings.
15. Pets and animals of any sort are not allowed on the bus.
16. Bus drivers will assign seats and seating charts will be carried on the bus. Changes will be made as needed for student safety.
17. Students are to remain in their assigned seats facing forward with feet out of the aisle.
18. Students are not permitted to move around while the bus is in motion.
19. Bus windows are to always remain closed, unless the driver instructs the students to lower them at such time students must keep all articles and body parts inside the vehicle.
20. The possession of any weapon, explosives, fireworks, unsheathed sharp object, peashooter, water balloons, laser pointers or any other articles that can cause pain or injury to others are prohibited. School supplies that fit this description should be kept in the student's backpack and not used on the bus.
21. Throwing, shooting, or blowing wads of paper, peas, pins, or other articles on the bus is not permitted. Spitting on the bus or out the window is not allowed.
22. Wrestling, fighting, hitting, scuffling, horseplay, bullying, or picking on other students will not be tolerated.
23. The use of profanity, vulgar language, obscene gestures, or verbal abuse such as name-calling, racial, ethnic, sexual or derogatory statements will not be allowed.
24. The use of all tobacco products is prohibited on the bus. This includes nicotine gum and electronic nicotine devices.

25. There is no food of any kind that is allowed to be consumed on the bus. This is to include gum, and/or candy of any kind. The only drink permissible is bottled water.

26. Students are not to leave any trash or rubbish behind on the bus.

27. Students who damage the bus in any way will be denied transportation until the damage is paid for. A student should report any damage to the bus as soon as it is noticed. This is to include camera systems that are in the front and back of the bus.

28. A Parent/Guardian is liable for property damage caused by either the neglect, willful or malicious conduct of a child under their duty of control. Property may be defined as any district owned equipment or resource and WFISD reserves the right to pursue all reasonable legal actions necessary to seek reimbursements for either the repair and/or replacement of said property.

29. Cell phones, radios, CD players, handheld games, laptops, school issued electronics, and other electronic devices may be used if it is not disruptive to the other students, the driver, or the monitors. Any electronic used for audio must be used with a hearing device such as earphones or ear buds. Taking pictures and/or videotaping on the bus is prohibited.

30. Transportation personnel are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.

31. Drivers have the option to restrict the use of cellphones and electronic devices if their use becomes excessive or disruptive to the safety of operating the vehicle.

*If there is a problem that needs to be discussed, please feel free to call the
Transportation Department for GoldStar Transit: (940) 233-7214*