Grand Rapids Area Schools Transportation Department

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School buses are the safest way for students to travel, but children also need to do their part to stay alert and aware of their surroundings to prevent injury.

Bus Safety Rules

Riding a school bus is a privilege and should be treated as an extension of the student's school day and the classroom. If you cannot do it in the school building or classroom, you cannot do it on the bus. Here are some Bus Safety Rules we expect all riders to follow.

Show Respect

- Use quiet, kind voices
- Follow the bus driver's directions

Work at our best

- Be a positive role model for others

Accept Responsibility

- Follow all bus safety rules

Practice safety

- Stay seated, facing forward
- Keep hands, feet, and belongings to self and inside the bus
- Keep the aisle clear
- All articles that students bring onto the bus with them must be able to fit on the student's lap in their bus seat.

Tips For A Safe Ride

Getting on the Bus:

- Students are expected to be at their bus stop 5 minutes before their scheduled pick up time. School bus drivers are not able to wait for late students.
- When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic and avoid roughhousing or other behavior that can lead to carelessness.
- Line up away from the street or road as the bus approaches.
- Wait until the bus has stopped and the door opens before approaching the bus.

Behavior on the Bus:

- Making loud noises and using loud voices can distract the driver. Please keep noise levels down.
- Please do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Stay in your seat and out of the aisle.
- Do not put your head, arms, or hands out the window.
- Keep aisles clear of books, bags, and instruments.
- Get your belongings together before reaching your stop
- Wait for the bus to stop completely before getting up from your seat.

Getting Off the Bus:

- If you must cross in front of the bus, first take 10 giant steps away from the bus until you can see the driver.
- Make sure the driver can see you.
- Wait for a signal from the driver before crossing.
- When the driver signals, look left, right, then left again. Walk across the road and keep an eye out for sudden traffic changes.
- Do not cross the center line of the road until the driver signals it is safe.
- Stay away from the rear wheels of the bus at all times.