

ROGERS SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS RULES AND PROCEDURES

In accordance with Federal Highway Safety Standard #17, entitled "Pupil Transportation Safety," and Rogers School District policy, Rogers Public Schools will instruct each student transported in a school vehicle on the rules and safe riding practices of a school bus.

As the parent or guardian of a transported student, you can help us meet this standard's intent. The safety of all students transported in a school bus is a responsibility shared by parents/guardians, students, bus drivers, teachers, and school administrators.

The bus driver's job is to operate the bus safely and to follow all school and federal regulations. *The driver may assign seats to students who interfere with these duties.* The driver may refer any infraction of the bus rules or procedures to the bus discipline supervisor. The bus discipline supervisor will share the discipline referral with the school administration and act upon it based on the following rules and guidelines.

BUS RELATED PROCEDURES

- A. Rogers School District transports students from home to school and from school to their home. Due to liability questions and bus overcrowding, we cannot transport students to babysitters.
- B. For students in K-5, if space is available, a student may go home with another student if they have written permission from both sets of parents.
- C. Students should be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the scheduled pick-up time. They should stand a safe distance from the bus stop and wait until the door opens before moving closer to the bus. The driver will not wait for students to come out of the house.
- D. Bus-related violations will be referred to the bus discipline supervision and building administration for disciplinary action. If a severe rules infraction occurs, the RPS Transportation Department Supervisor may suspend the student from riding the bus. If a student is suspended from a bus, all RPS buses will enforce the suspension.
- E. RPS may run limited bus service during inclement weather. For additional information, please check the RPS website at rogersschools.net.

GENERAL RULES

1. All students must obey the driver's directions promptly for safety reasons.
2. Students are to stay in their seats, face forward, and always keep the aisle clear.
3. Students must keep their hands and head inside the bus at all times.
4. Students must use proper boarding and departing procedures.
5. Students may not bring balloons, glass, animals, or any item too large to hold in the student's lap or fit under the seat in front of the student on the bus. (This includes musical instruments.)
6. Students are not to tamper with safety equipment or use emergency exits unless instructed to do so by authorized personnel.
7. No loud or distracting noises are allowed, including singing, yelling, or screaming.
8. No vandalism to school or personal property is allowed. Students must keep the bus clean. Please refrain from eating or drinking on the bus.
9. No ethnic, racial, or derogatory comments toward students or school bus personnel will be tolerated, and rude, vulgar, or obscene language or actions are prohibited.
10. Fighting will result in a bus suspension. Students must always keep their hands, feet, and other objects to themselves. Students are not allowed to spit or throw objects on or out of the bus.
11. Students may not bring any unsafe or potentially hazardous material on the bus. No matches, lighters, or other flammable materials are allowed on the bus.
12. Students who receive snack packs must keep all the contents in a backpack or risk no longer receiving snack packs.

IMPORTANT: Medications (prescription or over-the-counter) cannot be carried on the bus.

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Any student's actions deemed unsafe to the bus, bus personnel, or other riders may result in disciplinary action.

FIRST OFFENSE	- Parent contact by discipline note or telephone
SECOND OFFENSE	- 1-day bus suspension and parent contact
THIRD OFFENSE	- 3-day bus suspension and parent contact
FOURTH OFFENSE	- 5-day bus suspension and parent contact
FIFTH OFFENSE	- 10-day bus suspension and parent contact
SIXTH OFFENSE	- 30-day bus suspension and parent contact

After the sixth offense, the bus transportation supervisor, bus discipline supervisor, and building administration will consider and/or enforce BUS SUSPENSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

SEVERE RULES VIOLATIONS

- A. No possession or use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping materials, and/or related materials is allowed.
- B. No possession of look-alike weapons or a knife or blade (less than three inches) is allowed.

FIRST OFFENSE	- 10-day bus suspension and parent contact
SECOND OFFENSE	- 20-day bus suspension and parent contact
THIRD OFFENSE	- 30-day bus suspension and parent contact

After the third offense, the bus transportation supervisor, bus discipline supervisor, and building administration will consider and/or enforce BUS SUSPENSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

- C. No possession of guns or weapons is allowed.

FIRST OFFENSE	-BUS SUSPENSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR
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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION BASED ON THE SEVERITY OF THE ACT. In addition, any disciplinary violations on Rogers School District buses are subject to the district's discipline policy. Rogers School District student discipline policy, descriptor code JK, is outlined and located at rogersschools.net.

NOTE: Restitution may be required for damages resulting from student actions, including but not limited to vandalism, fighting, throwing objects, or other damages to school property.