

BUS CONDUCT

All students in the Chula Vista Elementary School District are required to practice good safety habits and behave in an appropriate manner when riding a school bus, waiting at a bus stop, or going to and from a bus stop. These requirements are necessary to ensure that children will have a safe ride and that threatening or destructive acts will be avoided.

Students with special needs will receive service that is appropriate to serve them in the least restrictive environment. Bus service including neighborhood bus stops may be used. A student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) will establish the accommodations necessary for transportation related services.

Our drivers are trained to provide safe, prompt and courteous bus transportation. Students transported in a school 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 students while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road. (**Ref: 5 CCR 14103**). Children's conduct must allow the driver to remain alert to traffic without being distracted by student misbehavior. The safety of ALL children on the bus is important to us. School buses may be equipped with video cameras to ensure safety and deter misbehavior.

Children whose conduct is consistently unacceptable may be denied transportation. Please help make your child's travel to and from school a safe experience each day by reading this information and reviewing it with your child.

- For the safety of all passengers, follow all instructions given by the bus driver.
- Immediately after boarding, sit down and face forward. Remain properly seated during the entire trip. Seating may be assigned.
- Keep hands, feet, and personal items to yourself and out of the aisle.
- Talk quietly. Do not use obscene language or gestures.

- Eating, drinking, or gum chewing is not permitted on the bus.
- No live animals (including insects), except guide, signal, and service dogs as specified in Civil Code 54.2.
- Large objects including skateboards, scooters, inflated balloons, weapons, glass, breakable containers, or any object that may cause injury to students are prohibited on the bus.
- Obtain permission from the bus driver before opening or closing windows.
- All parts of the body must be kept inside the bus.
- Do not throw objects inside the bus or outside of the bus windows/doors.
- Respect others and their property to and from the bus stop and on the bus.

Students who fail to observe these regulations may be denied school bus transportation. The typical procedure is:

1st Offense – Counsel Student, parents/guardians notified.

2nd Offense – Counsel Student, parents/guardians notified.

3rd Offense – Parents/guardian notified that child may be denied school bus transportation for not less than five (5) or more than ten (10) school days.

4th Offense – Parents/guardians notified that the child may be denied school bus transportation for not less than ten (10) or more than twenty (20) school days.

Any behavior that is a serious violation related to bus safety may directly result in the initiation of the fourth procedure. Any questions regarding District transportation procedures should be directed to the principal of the child's school of attendance.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD BUS STOP

Parents or guardians should provide the necessary supervision to ensure your child's safe and timely arrival to the designated stop. Provide instruction and practice with your child about street directions and

pedestrian safety to and from the bus stop. Please review and discuss with your child the "**School Bus Rider's Safety Guide**". All pamphlets regarding bus transportation are available in your school office.

Bus riders are encouraged to arrive at the designated bus stop no earlier than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled departure time. Children are to form a single line facing the direction of the approaching bus and be ready to board the bus upon arrival. Please leave room for the bus to stop away from your child upon approach.

Punctuality in arrival will also assist in preventing excessive backup of traffic in front of and behind the school bus while the bus driver operates the flashing "red light" system during the time the bus is stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading in accordance to **Vehicle Code 22112**. Your cooperation will help us maintain safe, timely, and reliable bus service.

The bus driver will make every effort to arrive and depart the bus stop by the scheduled departure time. Delays may occur due to adverse weather conditions and/or traffic congestion. The driver will not depart from the bus stop before the departure time. In order to remain on schedule, the driver cannot wait at the stop beyond the scheduled departure time.

Parents or guardians should discuss with their child how long to wait at the bus stop, and what to do if the school bus is delayed. If a school bus is delayed by ten (10) minutes, the driver notifies the Transportation Department and the department notifies the school.

Bus routes are written to allow students five (5) minutes to board the bus after school dismissal. In order to stay on schedule for all students, the buses must depart the school at this time.

Bus arrival times at the end of the day may vary more than morning departure times and it is possible that some children might be delivered to their stops earlier than the estimated arrival time. This could occur when a driver gains time by bypassing bus stops of absent children. Please be prepared and anticipate the delivery of your child at the school dismissal time.

Except for kindergartners, students are not required to be met at a neighborhood bus stop regardless of

grade level. However, if any child is hesitant or reluctant to get off the bus at his or her stop will be returned to school or taken to the **Chula Vista Elementary School District, Education Service and Support Center located at 84 East "J" Street, Chula Vista** where you should pick him/her up. The Chula Vista Police Department (691-5151) may be contacted.

School bus drivers are required to load and unload passengers only at authorized bus stops.

Kindergarten Students: Must not be left unattended at their bus stop.

Kindergarten students not met or escorted by a sibling riding the same bus will remain on the bus and will be returned to school.

Continual problems regarding the delivery of a child may result in suspension of riding privileges.

Kindergarten Identification: It is required that each kindergarten bus rider be provided an identification tag from school to be worn daily. The tag should include the school of attendance, student I.D. number, route identification letter(s), and bus stop.

Only authorized bus riders are permitted to ride the bus, and they will be required to get on and off at their designated stops. An authorized bus rider who wants to get off the bus at a stop other than the normal stop is required to have a note signed by his or her parent and endorsed by the school principal. Permission to get off at a different stop will only be granted if no change of bus is involved. Students who are not authorized bus riders will not be permitted to ride the bus even to accompany an authorized rider to or from school.

Lost Items: Every effort will be made to locate such items and return them to their rightful owner. Transportation assumes no responsibility for items left behind on the bus.

SCHOOL BUS PROCEDURE DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

The following procedures will be followed by bus drivers in the event an earthquake occurs while a school bus is on a scheduled pickup or take-home run.

Minor Earthquake (little or no damage to roads or structures): If a minor earthquake occurs while a bus is on a scheduled pickup or take-home run, the bus will temporarily stop until the driver can determine that all is clear, then continue the regularly assigned route.

Major Earthquake (obvious damage to roads or structures which might impede the movement of the bus): If a major earthquake occurs while a bus is on a run, the bus will stop picking up or dropping off students and as safety conditions allow, will go to the nearest district school to await further instructions. Children waiting to be picked up by the bus or who have been dropped off at their stop should return home or go to an alternate safe address.

All children who ride district buses should be instructed in advance by parents or guardians as to where they should go and what they should do if a major earthquake occurs prior to their scheduled bus pickup time or after they have departed from the bus.

**Please keep emergency telephone
and contact information at your
child's school up-to-date.**

The Chula Vista Elementary School District is committed to providing equal educational, contracting, and employment opportunity to all in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. The District official who monitors compliance is the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, 84 East J Street Chula Vista, CA 91910, phone 619/425-9600. Any Individual who believes s/he has been a victim of unlawful discrimination in employment contracting, or in an educational program may file a formal complaint with the District's Human Resources Office.

CHULA VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Riding the School Bus

Parent Information for Neighborhood Bus Stops



**"EACH CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL
OF GREAT WORTH"**

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Delia Dominguez Cervantes
Jessica R. Tolston
Lucy Ugarte
Karen Ramirez Dominguez
Francisco Tamayo

SUPERINTENDENT
Dr. Eduardo Reyes

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www.cvesd.org

Transportation Direct Line 619.656.5600
Transportation Fax 619.421.8545