

School Bus Rules and Regulations

School buses are extensions of regular school facilities and students are expected to conduct themselves on the buses as they do when they are in the school building. School bus drivers have the same authority as the classroom teachers to enforce the rules and regulations in accordance with state law, (O.A.C. 3301-83-08).

Parents/Guardians are responsible for their child’s behavior before boarding the bus in the morning (this includes the area where the children gather to wait for the bus) and after the students disembark from the bus at the end of the school day. Riding the bus is a privilege and the student’s behavior is a matter of safety and involves the lives of others. Bus drivers should not be distracted from their task of driving, due to inappropriate behavior. **Please read then discuss the following transportation rules with your child and sign the attached form. Return the signed portion to the bus driver and retain the top section for future reference.**

- The bus driver is the sole responsible authority on the bus. Students should not be discourteous to the driver.
- The volume of a student’s voice should be consistent with that of inside a classroom.
- Students will board and depart only at assigned stops. Only authorized students may ride the school buses.
- Students must be at their assigned **stops 5 minutes before the bus arrives. The bus does not stop if there is not a student waiting at the bus stop.**
- Students will remain at their assigned “designated place of safety” when the bus is arriving at or departing from the stop.
- The bus windows should not be opened without permission from the driver. Students will not put their head, hands or arms out of the bus windows. Students will not throw, shoot or spit objects out, in, or at the bus.
- Transportation of animals is prohibited.
- When crossing a road, whether boarding or leaving the bus, students are to walk 10 feet in front of the bus. The driver will hand signal when it’s safe to cross. Students should always watch traffic during crossing. Students should never stoop to pick up dropped items during crossing. NO EARBUDS are to be worn during loading and exiting the bus. HUGE safety issue!!!
- Students will go directly to their assigned seat. Students will remain seated when the bus is moving and stay clear of the aisle.
- Backpacks, musical instruments, and other large items must be small enough to be held in the child's lap and be handled by the student, in such a way, as to not come in contact with other students.
- Students will not use profane or indecent language or gestures.
- **Eating and drinking are prohibited.** Any drinks brought on the bus need to be in a closed container secured in a lunchbox or backpack. This rule also applies to field trips and extracurricular activities. Students will not be permitted to board the bus with drink carriers.
- Students will not possess or attempt to transport drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping materials/devices, firearms, or anything that might be considered a weapon. Possession of any illicit material will be just cause for immediate suspension from transportation and possible criminal action. Smoking, vaping, and chewing tobacco is prohibited.
- No sprays of any kind (colognes, hair spray, aerosoles, hand sanitizer, soaps) are to be used while on the bus.
- Students will not vandalize or damage the bus.
- Students will not tamper with emergency doors, safety devices or video cameras.
- Use of cell phones: All phones must be muted - unless the student has headphones. No voice communication is permitted. **Audio/video recording or photography of students or staff members is prohibited.** Earbuds may not be worn by students while boarding or exiting the bus.

After a driver has warned a student about unacceptable behavior, he/she will write a Bus Conduct Report that is then turned over to the appropriate administration for disciplinary action.

1st Conduct Report - warning and call to parents	2nd Conduct Report - 1 day Bus Suspension and call to parents
3rd Conduct Report - 3 day Bus Suspension and call to parents.	4th Conduct Report - 5 day Bus Suspension and call to parents.
5th Conduct Report - 7 day Bus Suspension and call to parents.	6th Conduct Report - 10 day Bus Suspension with recommendation to Superintendent for disqualification for Bus Service for the remainder of the semester or school year.

Please see reverse side for School Bus Stop Safety information and PARENT SIGNATURE PAGE

SCHOOL BUS DANGER ZONES

STAY OUT OF THE DANGER ZONES!

- It is very important that students avoid walking within **10 feet** of the bus on all sides, especially the front, and the right rear of the bus. If you cannot see the bus driver, the bus driver cannot see you. Be safe!
- **Parents, please help us teach your student to SAFELY board and exit the bus by following the drivers instructions.** When students are boarding or exiting the bus at their scheduled bus stop, the driver will instruct the student to follow his/her directions for safety. This will include watching his/her hand signal in the window. When the driver lowers his/her hand, the student should look for traffic and cross or enter the bus if there is no traffic. If the student hears the bus horn, they should stop and watch the driver for further instructions.
- Students in kindergarten thru 2nd grade are required to have a parent/guardian at the scheduled bus stop to receive the student at the end of the day. If you choose to have your student dropped without an adult, please fill out a **PARENT RESPONSIBILITY** form. The form can be found on the schools website under transportation. If we do not have a form on file and no adult is at the stop to receive your child, your child will be brought back to the elementary school and you will need to come pick them up.

******IF YOUR CHILD WILL NO LONGER BE RIDING THE BUS OR WILL OFF THE BUS FOR AN EXTENDED AMOUNT OF TIME (due to sports, illness, etc...), PLEASE NOTIFY THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE AT 330-797-3901 ext 6063**

If students do not ride 5 consecutive days without notification, they will be removed from the bus roster.

THANK YOU

DETACH and Return to Bus Driver

I understand these rules. I have read and discussed them with my child.

Student: _____ **Grade** _____

Bus #: _____

Parent Name: _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____

School: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____