STUDENTS

Riding School Buses

While riding buses to or from school, students **shall** <u>will</u> observe all school rules, in addition to the following specific rules affecting conduct and safety on buses. Denial of the privilege of riding the bus may result from violation of any of these rules.

- 1. Students must will obey the driver promptly and willingly and any aide assigned to the bus by the district. The driver is in full charge of the bus and passengers and will be obeyed. If an aide is assigned to the bus by the district, he/she will be responsible for the safe operation of the bus. When transporting classes or teams, the teacher or coach will be primarily responsible for the behavior of the students. Students will obey both the driver and the teacher, coach or other staff member.
- 2. <u>Students will ride only on their assigned bus unless written permission to do otherwise has been received by school officials.</u> <u>Students must obey the School Safety Patrol.</u>
- 3. Students will not be permitted to leave the bus except at their regular stop unless written permission to do otherwise is received by school officials. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct must be observed.
- 4. Students assigned seats will use only that seat unless permission to change is authorized by the driver. Students are to assist in keeping the bus clean by keeping their waste paper off the floor. Students must also refrain from throwing refuse out of windows.
- 5. Students will observe rules of classroom conduct while riding on buses. Noise will be kept down to avoid distracting the driver. Students will refrain from the use of obscene language or gestures. No student shall open a bus window on the school bus without first getting permission from the driver.
- 6. <u>Students will not smoke or ignite lighters or matches on buses.</u> No student shall at any time extend his or her head, hands, or arms out of the windows whether the school bus is in motion or standing still.
- 7. Students will not eat on buses, except when specifically authorized and supervised by an accompanying teacher, coach or other staff member. Buses will be kept clean. Students must see that they have nothing in their possession that may cause injury to another, such as sticks, any type of firearms, straps or pins extending from their clothing.
- 8. <u>Students will not open bus windows without the driver's permission.</u> <u>Students must see that their books and personal belongings are kept out of the aisles.</u>
- 9. Students will not extend any part of their body out of bus windows at any time. No student will be allowed to talk to the driver more than is necessary.
- 10. Students will not carry or have in their possession items that can cause injury to passengers on the bus. Such items include, but are not limited to, sticks, breakable containers, weapons or firearms, straps or pins protruding from clothing, large, bulky items which cannot be held or placed between legs, etc. Books and personal belongings will be kept out of the aisle. Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion and are not to get on or off the bus until it has come to a full stop.

- 11. Students will not have animals on buses, except one providing assistance to a disabled student. Students must leave the bus in an orderly manner and must obey the orders of the School Safety Patrol on bus duty. They must not cross the highway until given consent by the school bus driver or the School Safety Patrol. When boarding or leaving the bus, students should be in view of the driver at all times.
- 12. <u>Students will not sit in the driver's seat or to the immediate right or left of the driver.</u> Students must cross the highway only in front of the school bus.
- 13. <u>Students will refrain from talking to the driver unless necessary.</u> <u>Students must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus.</u>
- 14. <u>Students will go directly to a seat once inside the bus and remain seated at all times unless the driver instructs otherwise.</u> <u>Students who have to walk some distance along the highway to the bus loading zone must walk on the left side facing the oncoming traffic. This will also apply to students leaving the bus loading zone in the evening.</u>
- 15. Students will get on/off the bus in an orderly manner and will obey the instructions of the driver or school safety patrol on duty. There will be no pushing and shoving when boarding or leaving the bus. Once off the bus, students will adhere to rules for pedestrians. The driver should report all cases of disobedience to the proper school authorities.
- 16. <u>Students will never cross the roadway behind a bus unless they use pedestrian crosswalks or traffic lights.</u> <u>Students removed from a bus for disciplinary reasons cannot ride any bus until given permission by school authorities.</u>
- 17. <u>Students will stand away from the roadway curb when any bus is approaching or leaving a stop.</u> Drivers must see that students do not change seats while enroute to and from school without his/her permission. Each student may be assigned to a seat by the driver or school authorities.
- 18. Students going to and from their bus stops where there are no sidewalks will walk on the left-hand side of the roadway facing oncoming traffic. Students will go directly to their home after leaving the bus. No student may sit in the driver's seat, nor may any student sit to the left or to the right of the driver interfering with him or her in any manner.
- 19. Students will follow emergency exit drill procedures as prescribed by the driver. In the event of an actual emergency, emergency exit procedures, as established by the emergency exit drills, will be followed.
- 20. <u>Students will not tamper with emergency doors or equipment.</u> <u>Students are not to run errands between the bus stop and their home.</u>
- 21. Students will remain quietly seated, not exhibit disruptive behavior and turn off all noise-making devices at highway rail grade crossings. Students are to refrain from eating on the school bus.
- 22. Parents of students identified as causing damage to buses may be charged with the cost of the incurred damage. Students causing damage may be suspended from transportation.

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23. Student misconduct will constitute sufficient reason for suspending transportation privileges.

Cross Reference: <u>Board Policy 3244</u> Riding School Buses

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