



Regulations for Students Who Ride School Buses

Meeting the School Bus

- Students are subject to **all** conditions outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct* while at the bus stop, going to and from the bus stop, or riding the bus.
- Students must be on time. Students should be at the stop at least **five minutes** before the regular pickup time.
- Students must not stand on the traveled portion of the roadway or on private property while waiting for a bus.
- While waiting at a bus stop, students must respect the property of homeowners in the area.
- Students must not run alongside a moving bus; they must wait until it has stopped, then walk to the front door.

Riding on the School Bus

- Students must obey the driver and be courteous to him/her and to their fellow students. The driver is in charge of the bus as well as the passengers and has the authority to assign seats to maintain discipline or promote safety.
- Students must never mar or deface the bus. The student performing the act must pay for any willful or careless damage.
- Students must not extend their arms, legs, or heads out of the bus window.
- Students must not talk to the driver while the bus is in motion except in an emergency.
- Students must not tamper with the **emergency door**.
- Students must not wave or shout at pedestrians or passengers in other vehicles.
- Students must not throw objects inside the bus or from a window.
- Books, book bags, band instruments, or other loose objects must not be placed in the aisle or on the floor at the front of the bus. These items will be permitted aboard **ONLY** if they can be held in the student's lap and not encumber another student.
- Eating, drinking, or selling any commodity on the bus is prohibited.
- Students must not open windows without the driver's permission.
- Items prohibited at school will **not** be permitted on the bus. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: live animals, glass objects, skateboards, scooters, surf/boogie boards, and other items that do not directly support the educational process.
- Portable communication devices, including cell phones, may not be displayed, activated, or used on the school bus by students while being transported to and/or from school.
- The bus driver has the right to refuse transportation to any student who has an unsafe object (e.g., matches, knives, firearms, etc.) in his/her possession.
- Parents, guardians, or their designees are required to accompany children under **six years** of age **to** and **from** the bus stop.
- No change will be made in the location of bus stops or bus routing without the approval of the Office of Transportation Services, **(757) 393-8269**.
- Students must ride their assigned buses. No change in a bus may be made without the school principal's permission.
- Riding a school bus is a privilege. Should any child be reported to the school principal, the principal will be responsible for taking disciplinary action, including the loss of the privilege of bus transportation.

Leaving the School Bus

- Students must remain seated until the bus comes to a full stop.
- Students must leave the bus at their regular stops.
- If students must cross a highway, they are to do so at the front of the bus and at a distance of at least **ten** feet in front of the bus. They must **not** cross until the driver has signaled that it is safe to do so.