
STUDENT CONDUCT ON A BUS

Background

The safety of passengers on a school bus is of primary importance. Therefore, the same level of conduct required within the classroom and school environment as per the *Education Act* is to be observed on the school buses at all times.

Procedures

1. Violation of any of the following may lead to the loss of riding privileges.
 - 1.1. Students must be at the designated stop three to five minutes before the designated departure time.
 - 1.2. Students who reside on the opposite side of the road from the designated stop are to cross in front of the bus and at least 5 meters ahead of the bus when alternately flashing lights are activated,
 - 1.3. Students must not distract the bus operator.
 - 1.4. Students must conduct themselves in a quiet and courteous manner, showing consideration to the bus operator and others while boarding, riding or departing from the bus.
 - 1.5. Students must always obey the driver and the orders of the monitor.
 - 1.6. Students must sit in the seat assigned to them by the bus operator. Students must remain seated when the bus is in motion.
2. Students whose behaviour risks their safety, the safety of other riders, or the safe operation of the school bus will be reported immediately to the school principal and the Transportation Office to address.
3. In buses where video cameras have been installed, recordings may be reviewed by the principal, Transportation Services and/or the Office of the Superintendent.
4. Parents/Guardians are responsible for:
 - 4.1. Instructing their children to obey all school bus rules;
 - 4.2. Ensuring their children are at the bus stop on time and follow appropriate loading procedures;
 - 4.3. Accepting responsibility for the conduct of their children prior to boarding the bus, during the daily trips and upon leaving the bus;

- 4.4. Providing the necessary supervision for their children when they are going to and from the bus stop;
- 4.5. Ensuring their children are appropriately dressed for the weather;
- 4.6. Ensuring their children are aware of the alternate arrangements to follow in the event of emergent conditions – such as, inclement weather, school closure, evacuation and bus breakdown;
- 4.7. Annually at the start of each school year – or as needed throughout the school year for all families that enroll in the Division mid-year – acknowledging they've read and reviewed this Administrative Procedure with their child.

5. Student Discipline

- 5.1. The bus operator may report a student to the parent/guardians and/or the Principal for violation of rules of conduct.
- 5.2. The Principal may suspend any student, under the provisions of the *Education Act*, from riding on any bus and report the circumstances, in writing, to the parent/guardian and Student Transportation.
- 5.3. The Principal may reinstate a student suspended from riding the bus.
- 5.4. When a student is not to be reinstated on the bus within five school days of the date of the suspension, the Principal shall immediately report, in writing, all the circumstances of the suspension to the Superintendent or designate, together with the Principal's recommendations.
- 5.5. The Board may reinstate the student or expel the student from riding the bus.
- 5.6. For causing willful damage to a school bus, a student shall be held fully accountable for the cost of repairs to the bus, at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate.
- 5.7. The Division supports bus operators in maintaining student conduct.

Reference: Section 11,31,32,33,36,37,52,53,59,197,222,257 Education Act
Traffic Safety Act
Student Transportation Regulation 250/98 (Amended AR 125/2005)

Approved: March 21, 2018
Amended: July 1, 2018; May 22, 2020, September 4, 2024