

Student Conduct on Buses

Philosophy

Riding a bus to school is a privilege, not an inherent right of the student. Idaho law provides that riding a school bus is a privilege available to students who exercise good conduct while on the school bus.

We believe all students can behave appropriately and safely while riding on school buses. We will tolerate no students preventing drivers from carrying out their responsibilities or preventing other students from having safe transportation.

All students, parents and guardians should become familiar with District bus rules and regulations and follow them carefully.

Student Conduct

It is imperative that the bus driver be in charge of the bus at all times. No student may initiate or participate in an activity that in any way interferes with the operation of the bus or the safety of others riding the bus or that violates any other part of the School District's discipline policy or behavior code. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding school district vehicles as are expected on school property or at school activities, functions or events, and additional specific transportation safety rules. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding a district vehicle or at a school bus stop.

The Superintendent shall establish written rules of conduct for students riding school buses. Such rules shall be reviewed annually by the Superintendent and revised if necessary. If the rules are substantially revised, they shall be submitted to the Board for approval.

A copy of the rules of conduct for students riding buses shall be provided to students at the beginning of the year. The schools and/or bus driver shall review the rules with the students at the beginning of each school year. A summary of the rules shall be posted in each bus. A copy shall be available upon request at the District office and in each building principal's office.

The bus driver shall be responsible for enforcing the rules, and shall work closely with the parent and building principal to modify a student's behavior. The rules shall include consistent consequences for student misbehavior.

Recommendations for permanent termination of bus privileges will be referred to the school board for final determination. The termination may be appealed to the Board. No further appeal shall be allowed.

A recommendation to terminate bus privileges shall be accompanied by a written record of the incident(s) that led to the recommendation. Said written record shall be provided to the parent/guardian of the student whose bus privileges are being revoked.

Bus Riding Rules

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and students. Students must obey requests of the driver promptly and courteously. Such requests may include:
 - a. Assignment of students to specific seats.
 - b. Requiring that students assist in keeping the bus clean.
 - c. Requiring permission to open windows on the bus. Windows may not be opened more than half way.
 - d. Requesting students to keep all items out of the aisles.
 - e. Following front seat loading and unloading procedures.

2. Students are expected to comply with state regulations which require all riders to:
 - a. Load and unload the bus in a safe, courteous manner at designated locations only.
 - b. Find a seat immediately and remain seated until the bus stops for deboarding.
 - c. Refrain from bringing pets or animals on the bus.
 - d. Refrain from eating or drinking on the bus or bringing any glass container on the bus.
 - e. Refrain from bringing any form of weapon on the bus, including but not limited to guns, knives or explosives.
 - f. Refrain from any conduct which would harass or distract the bus driver or other students, including making loud noises or obscene gestures or using profane or obscene language.
 - g. Refrain from engaging in, participating in or encouraging any form of fighting.

3. In assembling and awaiting the arrival of the bus, students are expected to obey all school rules providing for student standards of conduct and are not to cross the street until given consent by the driver. Students must cross the highway only in front of the bus, in full view of the driver, and not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for a bus. Students approaching bus stops, stay well off the roadway when waiting for the bus, and respect the property at the bus stop. Students must not try to board the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the door is opened. If it is necessary for a student to cross the road after leaving the bus, he or she must wait fifteen (15) feet in front of the bus until the “all clear” signal is given by the driver, then cross carefully. In crossing the road to board the bus, the student must wait until the driver gives the “all clear” signal, then carefully cross in front of the bus.

4. Students must keep hands, arms, and heads inside the bus at all times. No materials are to be thrown from the bus

5. Students are expected to be on time at loading points so buses can run on schedule. Buses cannot be expected to wait for late boarders. It is recommended students arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.
6. The student shall not leave or board the bus at locations other than the assigned home stop or assigned school unless such arrangements have been approved by the transportation supervisor and/or the building principal.
7. Students must avoid loud talking or unnecessary confusion. Absolute silence is demanded when the driver stops the bus at a railroad crossing.
8. When assigned to a bus a student must continue to ride that bus unless reassigned by the transportation supervisor.
9. No smoking, tobacco, or illegal drugs will be permitted on any bus transporting students to sponsoring functions.
10. No items are to be stored in the aisle. Any large items carried on the bus must be held on the students' laps. Items such as large musical instruments, shop projects, etc., will not be transported with students on the bus.

Cross Reference:	3330	Student Discipline
	8130	Transportation of Students with Disabilities
	8141	Transportation Discipline

Legal Reference:	I.C. § 33-1501	Transportation authorized
	I.C. § 33-205	Denial of school attendance

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 10, 2009

Revised on: April 13, 2015