

Student Conduct on Buses During Health Emergency

Riding the school bus is a privilege for students, not a right. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding School District vehicles as are expected on school property and at school activities, functions, and events and well as additional specific transportation safety rules. All students are expected to adhere to all health and safety protocols outlined by the District, including but not limited to, sitting far apart from other students they don't reside with, wearing facial coverings, etc. while riding on District-provided transportation if required at that time. 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, including rules regarding emergency exit drills. 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 classroom teacher and bus driver shall review the rules with the students at the beginning of each school year. A copy of the rules shall be posted in each bus and 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 the building principal to modify a student's behavior. The rules shall include consistent consequences for student misbehavior. Bus drivers have authority to assign seating and may discipline children who violate established bus rules. All serious violations, particularly those involving safety, vandalism and fighting, shall be reported to the student's principal and written up as a disciplinary referral.

Recommendations for permanent termination of bus privileges will be referred to the Superintendent 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.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

If a student's IEP team determines that special transportation is required and documents it on the IEP, all procedures under the IDEA 2004 must be followed with regard to the student and

transportation. A suspension from bus transportation depends on whether bus transportation is identified on the IEP:

1. If bus transportation is on the IEP, a suspension from the bus would be treated as a suspension from school. An exception to this is if the District provides transportation in some other way, such as transportation in lieu of, because transportation is necessary.
2. If bus transportation is not on the IEP, a suspension from the bus would not be counted as suspension from school. In this situation, the student and the parent would have the same obligation to get to and from school as a student without a disability who had been suspended from the bus.

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

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-205	Denial of School Attendance
I.C. § 33-1501	Transportation Authorized

Policy History:

Adopted on: May 15, 2017

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