



# Catoosa County Public Schools

## Transportation Department

### School Bus Safety 2018-2019

Driving a school bus full of excited young people is a major responsibility that we take very seriously! Good student behavior on the school bus is **very important** for the safety of everyone. Each day thousands of students are transported in our system to and from school and their safety is **PRIORITY!** Any distraction of the bus driver could cause serious accidents that could lead to injury or even death.

#### **BUS DRIVERS NEED EVERYONE'S HELP!**

While waiting for the bus, students should wear bright clothing and wait at least twelve (12) feet back from the road. **Students should be at the bus stop 10 minutes prior to scheduled bus arrival time and be visible to the bus driver.** Horseplay at the bus stop is very dangerous. Each year in Georgia students have more accidents occur at the bus stop than while riding the bus.

**ATTN: Parent/Guardian of students Pre-School through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

**Adult MUST be visible to the bus driver before the student will be allowed to get off the bus. If adult is not visible, student(s) will be returned to school. Primary/Elementary students are not allowed to stay on the bus during middle/high routes in the afternoon.**

**(\*Please note that children under the age of 13 are not allowed to be babysitters to younger children per Georgia DFCS guidelines-Please see reverse for guidelines)**

In order for all students to arrive safely at school and home, the following behaviors will be expected:

1. The use of cell phones, electronic devices, tablets, cameras or laptops may be used by students on or near school buses as directed by the bus driver present on the bus. It is the intent that such devices generally be allowed to be operated when students are riding on a bus for a longer periods of time but are prohibited from being operated when a student is getting fairly close to their bus stop, loading and unloading the bus, or crossing a road or street in connection with the student's bus ride.
2. Talk in a quiet tone. Silence is expected at all railroad crossings.
3. Be courteous. NO horseplay. Use NO profanity. NO fighting.
4. Pick up all materials before leaving the bus.
5. Cooperate with the driver. Follow directions of driver at all times.
6. Smoking, tobacco products, profanity, and dangerous items are prohibited on the bus.
7. Food and drink must be finished before boarding the bus.
8. Stay seated at all times.
9. Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus.
10. No objects are to be thrown into, out of, or inside the bus.
11. All students are required to sit in assigned seat.

The bus driver is authorized to re-assign seats at any time on the bus.

**\*\*Non-Compliance of the above safety regulations may result in loss of bus riding privileges.\*\***

**COMPLETE AND RETURN form to school personnel or bus driver no later than 10 days after school enrollment**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Pertinent Medical Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

AM BUS #: \_\_\_\_\_ MIDDAY (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ PM BUS#: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your assistance!

**State of GA Guidelines administered through the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) relating to children without adult supervision state:**

***\*Children under 8 years old should never be left alone, even for short periods of time.***

***\*Children between the ages of 9 and 12, based on level of maturity, can be left home alone for brief periods of time.***

***\*Children 13 and older can generally be left as babysitters, with the exception of children in foster care. However, it is not recommended that 13-year-olds baby sit infants, small children or children requiring special attention due to medical conditions. Children 15 and older can be left home alone overnight, depending on their level of maturity.***

**<http://dfcs.dhs.georgia.gov>**