

SCHOOL BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Acceptable conduct on the school bus is developed by the cooperative effort of the transportation director, principals and bus drivers. All discipline is related to the primary concern for the safety of students.

All school children being transported on a school bus are under the direct supervision and control of the school bus driver and shall be subject to the discipline of the bus driver and student's principal. The bus driver shall be firm but fair in dealing with students.

In order to assure each student safe transportation while on a school bus, the following rules, established by the transportation director and the transportation committee, must be adhered to:

1. Students will remain well back from the roadway while waiting for the bus.
2. Enter the bus in an orderly fashion and go directly to a seat and remain there until the destination is reached.
3. To insure safety, the driver must be totally in charge, and passengers must respond promptly to all instructions given. All students will be assigned a seat at the beginning of the year.
4. The use of any tobacco products, gum, food or drink on the bus is prohibited.
5. Passengers must obey classroom conduct. Ordinary conversation is permitted. Horseplay, unruly behavior, abusive and obscene language or gestures is prohibited. Students shall conduct themselves in such a manner that they will not disturb other riders on the bus or the driver.
6. Boys will sit on one side and girls will sit on the other side. This will be maintained as best as it can based on the ratio of male female.
7. Students must maintain reasonable order so that the driver may be alert for various traffic hazards.
8. Keep aisles and step well clear at all times. If you must carry personal items on the bus with you, please hold them in your seat. No personal item will be allowed to take a student's seat. Items too large to be held in a student's lap or store under the seat will be denied.
9. Students must keep head, hands, arms, feet, and legs inside the bus at all times. Do not extend any portion of the body out of the bus windows.
10. Pupils shall enter or leave the bus with the consent of the bus driver at the front door only, except in an emergency. Emergency doors and exits are for emergencies only.
11. Students who must cross the street at a bus stop shall not do so until they receive a signal from the bus driver. When crossing a street is necessary, it shall always be done in front of the bus so that the driver may adequately observe them. This means that students shall be able to see the face of the bus driver. The driver shall hold his/her bus with warning lights flashing until the crossing has been completed.

12. In order that drivers may meet their time schedule, students are expected to be at the designated stop at the scheduled time. The bus can not wait for tardy passengers. **Never** run to catch a bus. Be early.
13. Children who live close together are to come to a common bus stop in order to avoid as many unnecessary stops for the bus as possible. No stops will be closer than 600 feet.
14. Drivers will not unload passengers at places other than the regular stops near their homes, or at a school without an authorized bus pass approved by the transportation director and signed by the student's principal or his/her designee. A note signed by the parent to the driver will not suffice unless this child is one of your regular riders and is riding to another location on the same bus route.
15. A student shall become ineligible for pupil transportation when their behavior is such as to cause dissension on a school bus, or when they disobey state and local rules and regulations pertaining to pupil transportation.
16. Any principal may for good and sufficient reasons suspend a pupil from attendance at school or from riding a bus until the case is decided by the Board of Education (code 6.316, TSB Section 6, page 41, TCA 49-6-3401).
17. Any name calling that refers to religion, sex, or race will be written up.
18. Use of profanity in any form is prohibited. Any profanity directed to another person will be an immediate write up.
19. Students will not be allowed to bring knives or sharp objects of any kind, firearms, pets or other living animals on the bus. All students must put away their pencils before entering the school bus.
20. Students shall not tamper with any of the safety devices such as door latches, hatches, and fire extinguishers.
21. Use of aerosol sprays or cologne on the bus is strictly prohibited.

Failure to follow these regulations may result in suspension from Cheatham County School's Transportation. Parents must assume responsibility for the behavior of their children while their children are riding the bus. If permission to ride the bus is revoked, the parent must provide transportation to and from school for the student until such time a reinstatement is made.