

# Desoto County Schools Transportation Parent/Guardian Responsibilities



Provide for security, safety and any necessary supervision of your student prior to loading and after unloading from a school bus.

Understand and support DCS policies and procedures concerning transportation and school bus safety.

Ensure your student understands the same DCS policies and procedures and encourage them to comply.

Cooperate with school officials, administrators and transportation personnel.

Promptly communicate safety concerns to school administrators and/or transportation personnel.

Avoid conversations that may distract a driver during loading and unloading.

Acknowledge and support the authority of the school bus driver and his/her reasonable efforts to ensure safety, good order and discipline.

Support reasonable discipline efforts of the school administration.

Be aware of the dangers involved in and around loading/unloading zones (bus stops), including the dangers of loose clothing, clothing accessories, backpack straps and other loose personal items.

Understand students may be disciplined for inappropriate behavior at or near a bus stop or on the bus.

Ensure bus stop locations are understood and bus driver has necessary student information (Bus Pass).

Ensure that students arrive at the bus stop no less than five minutes *before* a scheduled pick-up time.

Ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the weather and season.

Know that students (K-12) are picked up and delivered to designated bus stops only.

Know that a driver is not required or expected to wait for students not at their stop in the morning.

Know that a driver is not required or expected to wait for parents to receive students in the afternoon.

Know the law (Mississippi Code Annotated):

### **37-41-2 Interference with the operation of school bus; penalty**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any individual, other than a student scheduled to be a passenger upon that particular bus, a member of the public school administration or faculty, or a law enforcement official, to directly or indirectly interfere in any way with passenger ingress and egress or the operation, including unauthorized boarding thereof, of a bus used in public school student transportation unless permission has been obtained as prescribed by pertinent rules and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education or local school authorities.

(b) Upon conviction of violation of any provision of this section, such individual shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or both. Any person under the age of seventeen (17) who violates any provision of this section shall be treated as delinquent within the jurisdiction of the youth court.

### **37-41-3 Pupil entitled to transportation** (paraphrased)

*Students living within one (1) mile of their school are NOT ENTITLED to school bus transportation.*