

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior.

The school principal may suspend or revoke the riding privileges of students and/or take other disciplinary actions for students who are disciplinary problems on the bus. Parents (or guardians) of children whose behavior and misconduct on school buses violates the Student Code of Conduct or otherwise endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders shall be notified that their child/children face the loss of school bus riding privileges and/or other disciplinary actions.

If a student's riding privileges are suspended or revoked, the student's parents are responsible for seeing that the student gets to and from school safely.

The bus driver is responsible for maintaining the orderly behavior of students on school buses and shall report misconduct to the student's principal and provide a copy of the report to the transportation office.

Adopted: July 13, 2009

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, §§ 22.1-78, 22.1-176, 22.1-181, 22.1-293(B), (D).

Cross Ref.: EEA Student Transportation Services
JFC Student Conduct
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct

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Conduct on School Buses

1. Students are expected to ride the same bus every day, making the same stops and being picked up at the same places, unless a note is sent to the principal, who will in turn, write a note to the bus driver. If a student never rides the bus in the morning and rides in the afternoon, then that is his/her routine, any change requires a note from a parent. Parents should never take students off the bus without notifying the principal. Students who ride the bus in the morning must return home on that bus, unless a note approved by the principal/designee is on file. If this is a permanent arrangement, a note should be permanently maintained in the principal's office. A current roster of students will be maintained on each bus.
2. When students walk to a designated bus stop, they should walk on the left side of the highway facing traffic. If at all possible, students should be picked up on the bus door side of the road.
3. Students are not to bring bottles, animals or large objects on the bus. They should place their books, etc., on the floor in front of their seats. They should load to the rear as they are picked up. In order to facilitate this, a seat may be assigned to them. Only students and employees of the school division may ride the buses. Only school employees are allowed on the bus while students are being transported to and from school.
4. Students must stay in their seats at all times. They may not get off the bus to go to the store or for any other reason. They should not roam or move about in the bus. In order to get off anywhere other than their designated stop, a note from the principal is necessary.
5. Students are under the direction of the bus driver and must accept the driver's authority. Drivers are not permitted to put students off the bus.
6. Every student who rides a bus is responsible for keeping it clean. Boisterousness and vulgarity will not be tolerated.
7. When the bus approaches a designated stop, all students must remain seated until the bus comes to a full halt. Then the students to be discharged should leave the bus and if they are to go across the road, they should go to the front

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of the bus and stand behind the safety patrolperson if one is available. The driver will signal the patrolperson, who will then permit the students to cross the road. This is very important and a must for every student. The student should be at least 15 feet from the bus and never out further than the inside left fender.

8. Students should not talk to the driver and never stand in the stairwell. A few students may have to stand for short distances. In that event, they should stand behind the driver's seat.
9. Problems should be reported first to the driver. Then, if it is felt that proper action was not taken, it should be reported to the principal.
10. Smoking is never allowed on the bus by students or drivers. Refueling of gas tanks is not permitted while students are aboard the bus.
11. Students and their parents or guardians are directly responsible for damage done carelessly and maliciously to any bus seat or equipment, and they shall be charged for same.
12. Students are never allowed on the bus unless the driver is either seated (in the case of secondary students), or at the door to help identify the bus (in the case of elementary students). This is very important. If the driver is not on the bus the students are not to board the bus.

Approved by School Board: June 9, 1986

Amended June 13, 1994

Amended by School Board: December 9, 2002

TAZEWELL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD