

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education believes it is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on District buses, both to ensure their safety and that of other passengers, as well as to ensure the least possible distractions for bus drivers.

Some students are eligible for bus transportation to and from school. All such students are expected to maintain good conduct while traveling to and from school. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting will not be tolerated. It is also important that those waiting for buses conduct themselves properly in respect to the rights and property of others. Parents are reminded that bus transportation for students is a privilege which may be suspended due to misbehavior.

The Superintendent of Schools is directed to develop regulations for student conduct on school buses, to include standards for behavior, procedures, and appropriate disciplinary measures.

On buses, it is the responsibility of the school bus driver to maintain order. In this connection, the bus driver must communicate closely with the Principal or designee. If a student becomes a serious disciplinary problem on a school bus, the Superintendent of Schools or designee may suspend the student's transportation privileges.

Reference: Education Law §§ 305(14); 1807; 3602(7); 3635 et seq.

Cross-Reference: Policy 8410, Student Transportation

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES REGULATION

The behavior of students on District buses is a matter of major concern, since the health, safety, and welfare of the students are jeopardized when behavior is not appropriate. The student body, parents, administrators, and the transportation staff must work together to bring about meaningful improvements in student behavior, and to establish consistent procedures to deal effectively with bus behavior discipline problems. To facilitate the attainment of these objectives, the following procedures shall be in effect:

Instructional Programs

1. An in-service program for bus drivers will be instituted to accomplish the following:
 - a. Aid in developing a positive atmosphere on buses.
 - b. Aid in developing positive attitudes.
 - c. Aid in developing techniques for handling student bus behavior problems.
2. A student bus behavior training program will be instituted by the District. Such program will have the following objectives:
 - a. Improvement of communications between and among bus drivers, students, building administrators and supervisors.
 - b. Development of a greater awareness by school personnel of the example they set to students by their own behavior.
 - c. Development of student motivation to follow rules of health and safety.
 - d. Development of a sense of pride on the part of school personnel and students in the achievement of proper bus behavior.

Consistency in Handling Bus Behavior Problems

1. Bus drivers shall follow these guidelines:
 - a. The bus driver will initiate a "Bus Behavior Referral Form," including the following information: student name and grade, trip, date, time, brief description of incident, etc. The bus driver will submit the form to the proper school administrator only after other alternatives have been used to correct bus behavior problems.
 - b. The bus driver will write a description of the observed behavior problem.
 - c. This referral and written statement, when submitted to the proper school administrator, will be the basis for appropriate disciplinary action, as described in Policy 5313, Penalties.