

## Bus Safety

Student safety is our number one priority in getting your children to school and back home safely. We encourage parents to talk to their children about rules and regulations when they are on the school bus. These rules ensure the safety of each student on the bus.

1. **Students are to be at the bus stop five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled bus arrival time. The bus will not wait.**
2. **While at the bus stop or pick-up point, students will:**
  - Conduct themselves in an orderly manner. The bus stop is not a play area.
  - Avoid littering.
  - Stay out of the street.
  - Respect nearby property
3. **While a passenger on the bus, students will:**
  - Take assigned seats promptly after boarding the bus.
  - Remain seated at all times unless loading or unloading from the bus.
  - Talk in a low voice only with those students who share the same seat.
  - Obey the driver. The driver has the authority to discipline students on his/her bus. The school bus is an extension of the classroom.
  - Keep all portions of their bodies inside the bus.
4. **While a passenger on the bus, students must not:**
  - Use tobacco, drugs, alcohol or any controlled substances.
  - Throw any objects or litter.
  - Be discourteous, disobedient or disturbing to the driver or other passengers.
  - Use obscene language or gestures.
  - Eat food, drink beverages or chew gum.
  - Transport items, which may endanger the health or safety of passengers.
  - Transport large items or musical instruments that cannot be held on the lap. No articles can be placed in the driver's compartment or aisles. Articles may not block exits.
  - Open or close windows or emergency doors except when instructed to do so by the bus driver.
5. **Students are encouraged to report any damage** to seats or other parts of the bus to the driver. Failure to do so could cause students to be charged for the repairs.
6. **Students exiting the bus will always cross in front of the bus.** After being signaled by the driver, they will cross at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus and will obey all traffic controls for street crossing.
7. **A student will not be allowed to change buses or bus stops without approval.** The school alternate stop form must be filled out by parents/guardians and signed by the principal or designee.

8. **Students are to be on time to board the bus after school.** The driver will not wait more than five (5) minutes after school is dismissed.
9. **As per transportation policy, children must board the bus at their designated stops.** If they miss their bus stops, parents must transport children to school. Avoid chasing the bus. Students will not be allowed to load or unload the bus other than at designated stops.
10. **Ridership is a privilege not a right.** Students who persist in violating these rules and regulations risk the loss of their riding privileges. It will be the duty of the driver to notify the Transportation Department and the school principal or designee of bus misconduct. Upon notification students may be removed from the bus or lose his/her bus riding privileges. If students are removed from a bus or lose their riding privileges, it will be the parents/guardians responsibility to transport them to and from school. If parents/guardians have any questions concerning their student's transportation, please contact the local Transportation Office.