

## **CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND OTHER SCHOOL VEHICLES**

Any student eligible to be transported is expected to abide by rules of conduct for riding the bus or other school vehicle in order to assure the safety of all students. Students are expected to ride their respective assigned buses and not ride any other bus except under conditions of emergency or as directed by the school principal. Violation of district school board transportation policies, including disruptive behavior on a school bus or at a school bus stop, by a student is grounds for suspension of that student's privilege of riding on a school bus and may be ground for disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed. Florida Statute 1006.07.

Video cameras and audio devices have been installed on district buses. Students may be filmed and videotapes may be used to determine violations of the Code of Conduct and Discipline. Only authorized school personnel may view a video/audio recording when the need arises due to the protection of other students' privacy.

### **Bus Rules of Conduct**

Students shall obey the following rules:

- Be on time and stand off the roadway while waiting for the bus. Students are expected to adhere to bus rules on conduct at all designed bus stops.
- When crossing the roadway, be sure that the road is clear of traffic in both directions. Students shall cross the roadway ten (10) feet in front of the bus so that the driver can observe the student at all times.
- Follow all directions given by the driver.
- Remain in the bus seat at all times until departure at an assigned stop. The bus driver may assign seats when necessary to maintain order.
- Use ordinary quiet conversation and classroom conduct. While the bus is stopped for railroad crossings, students should remain silent.
- Do not talk to or distract the driver while the bus is in operation.
- Refrain from foul language or racial slurs.
- Keep hands, feet, arms and head to yourself and inside the bus at all times.
- Do not throw paper or other rubbish on the floor or otherwise litter, mark, deface, or damage any part of the bus.
- Do not throw any objects from the bus.
- Do not tamper with the emergency exit.
- Gum chewing, eating, drinking, and/or smoking are prohibited on the school bus.
- Balloons, any sharp instrument, weapon on any type, glass containers, animals or pets, large band instruments, skateboards, or other potentially hazardous objects are prohibited on the school bus. The only approved exception is band instruments that can be placed under the bus seat.

- Keep small objects such as balls, books, or toys that are loose off the floor. These could get underfoot and cause passengers to trip or fall. Sports equipment must be placed in an equipment bag at all times. **Equipment bags must be stored under the bus seat.**

**Consequences for Misbehavior on the Bus**

**Referral Consequence:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	The bus driver will have a conference with the student's parent/guardian and/or school the administrator and will provide written documentation of the meeting.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	The school administrator shall suspend the student from the bus for a period of 3 to 5 days.
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	The school administrator shall suspend the student from the bus for a period of 5 to 10 days.
5 <sup>th</sup>	The school administrator shall recommend bus expulsion.

School administrators are not required to follow these discipline steps, if in their opinion; the misbehavior is severe enough to bypass the steps. Acts of violence and acts that endanger the safety of others warrant the bypassing of the steps and may result in criminal penalties being imposed. School administrators have the discretion to repeat 1st and 2nd referral steps with students due to their age and/or level of understanding.

Please read, sign, and return this form to the school as soon as possible.

I have read the bus rules and discipline plan an discussed it with my child.

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_