



Dear Parent or Guardian,

This week, students in kindergarten through third grade participated in a bus safety demonstration. This seems to be a great time to communicate to ALL bus riders and their parents regarding bus behavior expectations. Even if your child does not normally ride the bus, we feel this information is important.

Your child's safety at school is our number one concern. We believe that safety on the school bus is especially important. We will continue to have high expectations for bus behavior. These expectations include following all bus rules:

- ✘ Go directly to your assigned seat
- ✘ Remain properly seated (back to seat, feet on floor)
- ✘ Keep aisles and exits clear
- ✘ Keep hands and feet to self
- ✘ Obey the bus driver promptly and respectfully
- ✘ Maintain a noise level that promotes safety
- ✘ No throwing of objects
- ✘ No eating, drinking, or chewing gum on the bus
- ✘ Keep all body parts in the bus at all times
- ✘ School rules of respect and responsibility apply during the bus ride and at the bus stop
- ✘ All book bags need to be held on your lap or stored under your seat

If a student chooses to break any of the rules, the following consequences will apply:

- ✘ First time: Verbal warning from bus driver
- ✘ Second time: Bus report/referral to principal

Multiple bus reports will result in bus suspension. The following sequence will occur:

- ✘ Bus reports 1 and 2: Parent contact
- ✘ Bus report 3: One day bus suspension
- ✘ Bus report 4: Parent contact (by phone or mail)
- ✘ Bus report 5: Three day bus suspension
- ✘ Bus report 6: Parent contact (by phone or mail)
- ✘ Bus report 7: Five day bus suspension
- ✘ Bus report 8: Ten day bus suspension or suspension from school. Denial of further bus riding privileges may occur.

Severe behavior, such as fighting or verbal abuse, will not follow the above sequence. Immediate suspension of bus driving privileges may occur.

Please note that a bus suspension includes the loss of riding privileges for field trips as well.

To ensure the safety of each student at his or her bus stops, the bus driver has designated a place for your child to stand. Your child should remain in this area while awaiting the bus.

Additionally, the bus driver will instruct your child as to the proper way to cross in front of the bus. These steps are:

- ✘ Stand in designated area
- ✘ Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop

- ✧ Make eye contact with the bus driver
- ✧ Wait for the bus driver to signal you to cross
- ✧ Look both ways for traffic
- ✧ Make sure you are ten feet in front of the bus

Once a child boards a bus, he/she becomes the responsibility of the school district. Such responsibility ends when a child is delivered to the bus stop at the end of the school day.

Any time your child needs to ride a different bus home, or get off at a different bus stop, a note should be sent to the school and signed by the teacher and principal. Parents and guardians should strive to make alternate arrangements before the child comes to school. Please avoid calling the school to make alternate arrangements except for emergencies.

If your child normally rides the bus and you are picking him/her up from school, please sign out your child in the office.

Please review this letter with your child. We care about your child! All children are more likely to remain safe if all students follow the necessary bus safety rules.

Thank you for helping us to keep our students safe!

Sincerely,

Angie Harrison
Principal

