

	MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY		
	Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Number:	Date Adopted:
	BUS CONDUCT	SS 8	4/79
	Revision Adopted:		
	1/95; 1/01		

BUS CONDUCT

In order to maintain conditions and an atmosphere suitable for safety, no person shall enter onto a school bus except students assigned to that bus or other persons with lawful and valid business on the bus.

The school bus is an extension of school activity; therefore, students shall conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior.

Students are under the supervision and control of the bus driver while on his/her bus, and all reasonable directions given by him/her shall be followed.

The principal of the student transported shall be informed by the bus driver of any serious discipline problem and may be called upon to assist if necessary. A student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus if the principal determines that his/her behavior is such as to cause disruption on the bus, or if he/she disobeys state or local rules and regulations pertaining to student transportation.

The suspension of a student from riding the school bus shall follow the same procedures as for any other school suspension.

Any student requesting to exit the bus at any point between school and the normal daily drop-off point must have written parental permission and the approval of the principal or principal designee. The principal or principal designee will provide written approval to the bus driver before the student is allowed to proceed.

Any student wishing to ride a bus other than the student's designated bus must have written parental permission and the approval of the principal or principal designee. The principal or principal designee will provide written approval to the bus driver before the student is allowed to proceed.

Students who transfer from bus to bus while en route to and from school shall be expected to abide by the discipline policies adopted by the Board and rules adopted by the staff of the assigned school.

USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS

Video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school vehicles transporting students to and from school or extracurricular activities.

Video surveillance shall be used to promote the order, safety, and security of students, staff, and property.

RULES FOR BUS CONDUCT

Students shall conform to the following rules of bus behavior:

1. Students shall take seats promptly after boarding the bus. No seats can be reserved. Should the driver assign a student a seat, the student must comply. Students shall remain in their seats while the bus is in motion.
2. Students shall not open windows unless asked to do so by the driver.
3. Students must keep hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
4. Students shall not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco in any form.
5. Students shall not throw objects on the bus or out the windows.
6. Students shall not distract the driver with loud talking, laughing, fighting, or unnecessary confusion.
7. Students shall not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum.
8. Students shall not transport live animals or insects, even in cages or containers, for any reason. If it is necessary to bring these to school, parents should arrange to transport them.
9. Students shall not litter.
10. Students shall not transport items which may endanger the health or safety of any other passengers, such as glass, flower arrangements, or balloons/balloon bouquets. Aisles should be kept clear of books, bags, lunches, instruments, and school projects. Parents should make arrangements to transport items too large to be held on the student's lap.
11. Students shall not transport weapons.
12. Students shall not use inappropriate language as follows: It is unacceptable to use language or gestures that are lewd, obscene, profane, or in general offensive and objectionable.
13. Students shall not be disobedient as follows: It is unacceptable to be defiant or refuse to obey and follow a legitimate request, command, rule, regulation, directive, or order.
14. Students shall not be disrespectful as follows: It is unacceptable to be discourteous, impolite, rude, insubordinate, or surly.
15. Students shall not be disruptive as follows: It is unacceptable to interrupt in any of its settings the orderly course of transportation affairs by any means, way, form, or fashion.
16. Students shall not be abusive or aggressive as follows: It is unacceptable to mistreat, misuse, hurt by treating badly, demean, insult, intimidate, extort, mock, jeer, ridicule, threaten, or use excessive force.
17. Students shall not damage school property.
18. Students should arrive at their bus stop ten minutes prior to their scheduled bus arrival time and students are not allowed to change location of authorized bus stops.

19. Students must stand well off the road and clear of the bus until it comes to a complete stop. Students should not run towards the bus.
20. Students must cross the road under the direction of the driver. Students must be careful in approaching bus stops--they must walk on left side, facing oncoming traffic; on exiting the bus, they should cross the road only after the driver has signaled that it is safe to do so.
21. No pens, pencils, markers, crayons, or sharp objects of any kind may be used while riding the bus to or from school.
22. Absolutely no perfumes or fingernail polish may be used while riding the school bus.

Legal Reference:

T.C.A. 49-6-2008