

Bus Rules for Students - Waterford School District

Look for the student bus rules in the Student Code of Conduct booklets distributed by the buildings or on the district website. Please review these rules with your child to ensure everyone's safety while riding the bus. The Waterford School District's Student Code of Conduct Rules, regulations and Disciplinary Guidelines for Student Misconduct are in effect while using transportation provided by the School District.

The bus driver is not only responsible for the bus, but has complete authority to control the conduct of the bus passengers while in transit. All students will follow instructions issued by the driver. If any time, in the judgment of the driver, a pupil fails to follow instructions and is in violation of any of the "Bus Rules for Students", the driver will issue a bus violation ticket or written warning completely filled out. A student receiving a violation or warning must have the ticket signed by one of their parents/guardians and then present it to the bus driver before the pupil will be re-admitted as a regular passenger on the bus.

In addition to the Student Code of Conduct, the following rules are important to the safe operation of the school bus and will be enforced consistent with the Code of Conduct and the provisions of MCLA Section 380.1311, as amended. Violations and penalties will be determined on an individual basis by the Bus Driver and Transportation Supervisor consulting with building administration as necessary. Discipline measures include written warnings, restorative practice opportunities, assigned seating and suspension of riding privileges.

The following rules address serious safety violations and could result in immediate suspension of riding privileges.

1. Students are forbidden to do anything that is detrimental to the health and safe transportation of all passengers and driver. Examples: smoke bombs, ammonia bombs, lighting matches, firecrackers, coughing/sneezing powder, incense burning, spraying of any substance in an aerosol can, laser pointers and harassment of the driver.
2. Students are forbidden to throw any objects within the bus, out of the bus, at the bus or the bus driver. (i.e. snowballs, rocks, balls, beverage containers, writing implements, etc...)
3. Students are forbidden to hold onto the outside of the bus in any manner.
4. Students are not permitted to possess or use tobacco, alcohol, E-cigarettes/vaporizers or narcotics in any form on the bus.
5. Students will not mutilate or deface the bus in any manner.
6. Students will refrain from fighting while aboard the bus.
7. Students will never use the emergency door except in the case of an emergency.
8. Students are forbidden to use loud or profane language toward the bus driver.
9. Students will keep heads and arms inside the bus at all times.
10. Students will not tamper with any mechanism or switches on the bus, including the door.
11. Students are forbidden to carry weapons of any nature aboard the bus.

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The following rules are not of as serious nature as the preceding list, but are still important to the safe and efficient operation of the bus and will be adhered to by all passengers. Any infraction of these rules will result in a written warning. A student who receives a written warning will be talked to by an administrator and the parent notified.

1. Each student upon boarding the bus will locate a seat, sit down and stay in that seat while the bus is in motion.
2. Students will refrain from using loud or profane language to other students.
3. Students will line up at the bus stop off the roadway. When the bus stops, they will file into the bus in an orderly manner. They will not jam the doorway.
4. Students will not put the windows down unless the driver gives permission.
5. Students should not attempt to reserve or save a seat for their friends.
6. Students will not bring animals on the bus. This includes reptiles and pets.
7. Students cannot eat or drink on the bus except in unusual circumstances where eating facilities are not available (i.e., field trips or athletic groups).
8. Students should get on or off the bus at the regular stop. Never ask the driver to make a special unscheduled stop.
9. Students will observe the following rules if it is necessary to cross the road after leaving the bus:
 - a. Make sure bus is stationary.
 - b. After leaving the bus, go in front of the bus, within sight of the driver.
 - c. On signal from the driver or personal escort, look both to the right and the left and if safe, proceed across the highway in front of the bus.
 - d. Walk (do not run) in front of the bus in crossing the road.
10. Students will not litter the bus at any time.
11. Students will refrain from scuffling aboard the bus.
12. Students will be seated as directed by the driver.
13. Students will refrain from acts of insubordination or insolence toward the driver.