

Discipline Procedures for District-Approved Student Transportation

All students eligible for public charter school-approved student transportation shall receive safety instruction and a code of conduct.

Violation of the code of conduct or conduct which jeopardizes the health or safety of themselves and/or others may result in the loss of approved transportation services.

1. Safety Instructions

- a. At least once in the first nine weeks of each school year the administration will direct all bus drivers to conduct instruction with all other students.
 - (1) The instruction will include:
 - (a) Safe school bus riding procedures, including but not limited to loading, unloading and crossing; and
 - (b) Use of emergency exits.
- b. The administration will record dates and the content of the instructions given by each driver. Such information shall be kept as a part of the public charter school's records.

2. Code of Conduct

Each year the public charter school will make available on the school's website and in the school office the code of conduct to all students and parents. The code of conduct will include a form for acknowledgment of being read and understood.

3. Education

Disciplinary action for violating the transportation code of conduct and/or transportation health and safety requirements shall be confined to public charter school-approved transportation services.

Students who have lost public charter school-approved transportation services through a disciplinary action shall be expected to continue with the public charter school's educational requirements.

- a. Students' academic grades will reflect academic achievement. Misconduct or absenteeism shall not be a sole criterion for grade reduction. Students will be expected to continue to meet the public charter school attendance and educational requirements.
- b. Makeup work may be provided. If makeup work is needed, the public charter school's policy and procedures will be followed.

- c. Alternative education may be provided. If alternative education is needed, the public charter school's policy and procedures will be followed.

4. Special Education Students

Special education students will be disciplined in accordance with Board policy JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities and its accompanying administrative regulation.

5. Violations

The public charter school will include procedures for responding to violations of the code of conduct in the student/parent handbook.

The public charter school will provide interpretation to those students/parents whose primary language is not English.

6. Suspension Procedures

The due process procedures for suspension of a student, in violation of Board policy EEACC - Student Conduct on School buses or this administrative regulation, are found in Board policy JGD - Suspension.

7. Expulsion Procedures

The due process procedures for expulsion of a student, in violation of Board policy EEACC - Student Conduct on School Buses or this administrative regulation, are found in Board policy JGE - Expulsion.

8. Right of Appeal

- a. At each step of the discipline procedures used in public charter school-approved transportation services, a parent, the student and/or a representative for the student has the right to an appeal.
- b. An appeal must be in writing.
- c. An appeal will be made to the responsible person at the appropriate level of appeal.
- d. A final appeal may be made to the public charter school board.
- e. The Board's decision will be final.

9. Reinstatement

A conference to discuss reinstatement shall be conducted under the following guidelines:

- a. When deemed necessary, parent(s) and student shall be present at the conference;
- b. The public charter school administrator shall fully explain matters and permit the parties involved to fully explain their positions;
- c. The public charter school administrator shall make a decision which provides guidelines for the student to follow if, or when, transportation services are reinstated.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATIONS

- First Citation - Warning*: The driver verbally restates behavior expectations and issues a warning citation*. The driver may assign the student to a particular seat.
- Second Citation*: The student is suspended from the bus until a conference, arranged by the administrator, has been held with the student, a parent, the bus driver the administrator.
- Third Citation* of the year: The student receives a 5- to 10-day suspension¹ and will not be able to ride the bus until a conference, arranged by the administrator, has been held with the student, a parent, the bus driver and the administrator. Further violations of bus regulations will be considered a severe violation.
- Severe Violations: Any severe violation may result in the immediate suspension of the student for a minimum of 10 days, and up to a 1-year expulsion². There will be a hearing, arranged by the administrator, involving the student, the bus driver, a parent and the administrator.

In all instances, the appeal process may be used if the student and/or parent desires.

* All citations must be signed by a parent, the bus driver and the administrator before the student will be allowed to ride the bus again.

¹“Suspension” means any disciplinary removal, other than expulsion, for up to 10 school days.

²“Expulsion” means any disciplinary removal beyond 10 school days up to one calendar year.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

If a student or parent wishes to appeal the application of the discipline policy, the steps outlined below should be used.

A student or parent that wishes to complain about a school employee's decision, will use Board policy KL - Public Complaints.

- Step 1: The student or his/her representative will discuss the issue with the administrator.
- Step 2: If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the discussion, he/she may file a written statement with the administrator. This is to be done within 10 school days of the act or condition which is the basis of the complaint. The administration will, within three school days, arrange a conference with the student, a parent and the administrator with the goal of resolving the issue.
- Step 3: Within five school days, the administrator is to communicate, in writing, the decision to the student and a parent.
- Step 5: If, after five school days from receipt of the administrator's reply, the issue is still unresolved, the student or parent may appeal the administrator's decision to the Board. The Board will notify persons involved that a hearing will be held within 14 days of receipt of the appeal. The Board shall review correspondence, hear relevant facts and respond to the student within three school days following the hearing.

Please return this signed form to the driver on or before the second day of school following receipt.

I have read and understand the transportation contract plan. I understand that transportation is an important service and that the safety of my student is the primary concern.

Student's Name

Parent's Signature

Date

Bus Route # _____ Phone Numbers: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

School _____

School Bus Code of Conduct

While riding a school bus, student riders will:

1. Obey the driver at all times;
2. Not throw objects;
3. *Not have in their possession any weapon as defined by Board policy JFCJ - Weapons in the Schools;
4. *Not fight, wrestle or scuffle;
5. *Not stand up and/or move from seats while the bus is in motion;
6. *Not extend hands, head, feet or objects from windows or doors;
7. *Not possess matches or other incendiaries and concussion devices;
8. *Use emergency exits only as directed by the driver;
9. *Not damage school property or the personal property of others;
10. *Not threaten or physically harm the driver or other riders;
11. *Not do any disruptive activity which might cause the driver to stop in order to reestablish order;
12. *Not make disrespectful or obscene statements;
13. *Not possess and/or use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs;
14. Not eat or chew gum;
15. Not carry glass containers or other glass objects;
16. Not take onto the bus skateboards, musical instruments or other large objects which might pose safety risks or barriers to safe entry and exit from the bus;
17. Accept assigned seats;
18. Stay away from the bus when it is moving;
19. Be at the bus stop five minutes before the scheduled pick up time (schedules will be posted on all buses);
20. **Answer to coaches, teachers and chaperons who are responsible for maintaining order on trips.

* These regulations, if broken, are SEVERE violations with severe consequences because of the threat to the safety of others.

** Coaches, teachers and chaperons: (1) must have a copy of the bus regulations and know them before going on a trip; and (2) must position themselves on the bus as to be in control of discipline at all times.

I have read the above rules and have discussed them with my student. We understand the importance of this code of conduct.

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date