

## Student Conduct on School Buses

### Conduct on the School Bus

There is a direct relationship between the conduct of student's and their safety and comfort on a school bus. The district's operation of its transportation system places major emphasis upon providing efficient, safe and enjoyable experiences. The district will publicize, distribute and enforce all rules governing all individuals riding a school bus.

#### Rules Governing Student's Riding School Buses:

1. Students being transported are under the authority of the bus driver and transportation assistant.
2. Fighting, wrestling, or boisterous activity is prohibited on the bus.
3. Students shall use the emergency door only in case of an emergency.
4. Students shall be on time for the bus, both morning and evening.
5. Students shall not bring, firearms, weapons, or other potentially hazardous items on the bus.
6. Students shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.
7. Students may be assigned seats by the driver.
8. Students shall cross in front of the bus or as instructed by the driver when it is necessary to cross the road.
9. Students shall not open or close windows without permission of the bus driver.
10. Students shall not extend their hands, arms, or heads through bus windows.
11. Students shall have written permission to leave the bus other than at home or school.
12. Students shall converse in normal tones; loud or vulgar language is prohibited.
13. Students will keep the bus clean and must refrain from damaging it.
14. Students will be courteous to the driver, fellow students and passers-by.

15. Students who refuse to promptly obey the directions of the driver or refuse to obey regulations may forfeit their privilege to ride on the buses.
16. Students will not bring animals, except approved assistance guide animals, on the bus.

In addition to Oregon Administrative Rules, the district adopts the following rules:

1. Large items which cannot be safely transported while held in the student's lap or stored directly under the seat are **generally** prohibited unless the bus has a baggage compartment.
2. **Large items may be allowed on the bus with the prior approval of the Transportation Supervisor. These items will only be allowed on the bus if transporting these items can meet the following ODE requirements:**
  - a. **The items can be placed in a location not adjacent to students;**
  - b. **The items can be secured by the driver in a manner that insures that they will not move even in the event of a bus collision;**
  - c. **The items do not block the aisle way or access to an emergency exit.**
3. Students shall not interfere with school bus operating controls except in an emergency or as instructed by the driver.
4. ~~Electronic Devices which are larger than pocket size are not allowed on school buses.~~ **Devices that create sounds that are distracting to the driver may not be used on the bus.**
5. Skateboards are not allowed on buses.

### **Severe Misconduct**

Certain actions are considered to be severe misconduct. If severe misconduct occurs, it may result in suspension or denial of transportation. Severe misconduct incidents are identified as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Fighting and intentional physical harm to others.
2. Open defiance toward those in authority.
3. Destruction and damage to property.
4. Possession or use of illegal substance.
5. Possession or use of weapons.

END OF POLICY

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 339.240](#)

[ORS 339.250](#)

[ORS 820.100 - 820.190](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075](#)

[OAR 581-023-0040](#)

[OAR 581-053-0002](#)

[OAR 581-053-0010](#)

Letter Opinion, Office of the OR Attorney General (Nov. 22, 1988).