

Todd County School District Policy: EEAE

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

When a child is riding, boarding, or leaving the bus, the bus driver has supervisory authority over the student and may use the physical force that is reasonable and necessary for supervisory control over students.

In view of the fact that a bus is an extension of the classroom, the board will require children to conduct themselves in the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior.

The following rules of conduct shall apply when students are riding school buses:

1. Students must be on time at the designated bus stops; the bus driver will not wait beyond the regular time schedule for tardy students.
2. Students must not stand in the traffic lanes while waiting for the bus.
3. Bus riders should not move to board the bus until it has completely stopped and the door is open.
4. Students shall ride on their assigned buses until directed otherwise by the administration or driver.
5. Students will enter the bus in an orderly fashion and go directly to a seat. Students must stay in their seats and in a sitting position when the bus is in motion.
6. Students must occupy the seats assigned to them.
7. The same courteous conduct as expected in the classroom must be observed while on the bus. Ordinary conversation is permitted. Shouting, screaming, smoking, running, fighting, vulgar talk and pushing are not permitted.
8. Students must refrain from unnecessary conversation with the driver. His/her job requires his/her full attention.
9. Bus riders should leave their seats only after the bus has come to a complete stop at their bus stop.
10. Students will assist the bus driver in keeping the interior of the bus clean, sanitary and in orderly condition. Students shall not throw paper or trash on the floor or out the bus window.
11. Students will not open windows without permission of the bus driver.
12. Students must not, at any time, put hands and arms out of the bus windows.
13. All articles such as athletic equipment, books, musical instruments, etc. must be kept out of the aisles.
14. Any damage to the bus will be paid for by the rider inflicting the damage and will be subject to suspension or expulsion from school.
15. A bus driver may set additional rules, subject to the approval of the Director of Transportation if conditions warrant. In such cases, the Director of Transportation shall notify the students' parents/guardians of the additional rules.

In cases when a child does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus, such instances will be brought to the attention of the Director of Transportation by the bus driver. The Director of Transportation will inform the parents or guardians immediately of the misconduct and request their cooperation in checking the child's behavior. The building principal will be contacted if additional consequence apply in accordance to the student handbook and discipline policy.

Children who become a serious disciplinary problem on the school bus may have their riding privileges suspended by the principal. In such cases, the parents of the children involved become responsible for seeing that their children get to and from school.

LEGAL REF.: SDCL 13-32-2

ADOPTED: April 19, 1983
REVISED: February 14, 1994
REVIEWED: August 24, 2015
REVISED: April 14, 2016
REVISED: August 27, 2018