

No. 5400
SECTION: STUDENTS
TITLE: CONDUCT: BUS CONDUCT

ADOPTED: 11/20/84
READOPTED: 1/29/14;11/15/16;9/17/19
REVISED: 6/23/98;6/18/07;7/19/11

OXFORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

To ensure the safe and proper operation of the school district's system of student transportation, rules and regulations regarding student conduct shall be established and enforced consistent with the following guidelines:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools shall establish rules and regulations governing student bus conduct and administrative procedure to effect their implementation.
- B. All school rules and regulations regarding student behavior are in effect while students are being transported.
- C. Students who violate established rules governing student conduct may be denied transportation. The denial of transportation shall be at the discretion of school authorities.
- D. Denial of transportation shall not be considered an acceptable reason for nonattendance. Parents shall be responsible for student transportation in those cases where a student's transportation privileges have been suspended.
- E. Consistent with this policy the bus driver is responsible for ensuring appropriate student bus conduct and has the authority to act in an appropriate and prudent manner to ensure compliance with established rules of conduct, maintain order and provide for the safe transportation of students.
- F. Video tapes of student activity on school buses may be used to further the resolution of bus misconduct issues and for that purpose only. Every effort must be made to protect the privacy rights of those students not engaged in the misconduct. Parents of those students involved in the misconduct may view that portion of the tape involving the misconduct.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

BUS CONDUCT

School transportation is a service which will be provided in accordance with school district transportation policy and so long as student behavior is appropriate and consistent with established rules and regulations governing bus conduct. The following guidelines and procedures have been established to implement Oxford Area School District policy concerning student bus conduct.

- A. Students are permitted to ride their assigned bus only. Permission to ride an alternate bus can only be granted by the appropriate school authority.
- B. Students must board and exit the school bus at their assigned stop.
- C. The following are examples of behaviors which will result in disciplinary action:
 - 1. Standing, walking or refusing to remain seated while the school bus or vehicle is in operation,
 - 2. Throwing items on the school bus or vehicle,
 - 3. Throwing items out of the school bus or vehicle,
 - 4. Extending any body part out of the school bus or vehicle window,
 - 5. Tampering with emergency doors or exits,
 - 6. Riding an unassigned vehicle without permission,
 - 7. Boarding or leaving a school bus at an unassigned stop,
 - 8. Insubordination or discourteous behavior directed towards the driver,
 - 9. Refusing to sit in an assigned seat,
 - 10. Any actions which affect the safe operation of the school bus or vehicle,
 - 11. Eating or drinking while on the school bus,
 - 12. Any violation of the code of conduct for the schools.
- D. Violations of the rules and regulations governing bus conduct shall be promptly reported to the school principal on the appropriate bus conduct referral form.
- E. The school principal shall be responsible for the investigation and disposition of bus conduct referrals. Coordination with the referring bus driver and district transportation coordinator is encouraged to resolve conduct issues and expected in cases of serious misconduct.

- F. Parent conferences to address bus conduct issues are encouraged. The use of video tapes of bus activity to resolve bus conduct issues is to be done with caution and with the interest of protecting the privacy of those not involved in the misconduct in mind.
- G. Transportation may be denied for an appropriate period of time for continued failure to comply with established rules of bus conduct or for cases of serious misconduct. Disciplinary action for bus misconduct consistent with the violation of school rules shall be consistent with the disciplinary action normally proscribed.
- H. Open communication between the principal, bus driver and transportation coordinator is expected.

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