

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

COMMENCED:

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

Student Transportation Safety and Bus Rider Expectations

I. Purpose

This Administrative Regulation establishes expectations and procedures for student conduct, safety, and responsibility while using Central Bucks School District-provided transportation. The regulation is intended to promote safe, orderly, and efficient transportation services by clearly defining expectations for students and families at bus stops, while boarding and riding the bus, and when transporting personal items or equipment.

II. Scope and Applicability

This Administrative Regulation applies to all students assigned to District-provided transportation, including transportation to and from school, school-sponsored activities, and other authorized transportation services. These expectations apply at assigned bus stops, while approaching or boarding the bus, while riding the bus, when exiting the bus, and when crossing the roadway where applicable.

Nothing in this Administrative Regulation changes a student's eligibility for transportation under applicable law, Board policy, or any student-specific transportation requirements established through an Individualized Education Program, Section 504 plan, or other legally required accommodation.

III. Bus Stop Expectations

Students are expected to arrive at their assigned bus stop and be waiting at least five minutes prior to the scheduled stop time. Students should be positioned at the designated bus stop location and should not wait inside a home, in a vehicle, or in another location that may prevent the driver from seeing that the student is present and ready to board.

Students shall remain out of the roadway while waiting for the bus. Students should wait in a safe location until the bus has come to a complete stop and the entrance door is open before approaching the bus.

When crossing the roadway is required, students must cross at least ten feet in front of the bus and follow the driver's direction and applicable safety procedures before crossing.

IV. Boarding, Riding, and Exiting the Bus

Students shall board and exit the bus in an orderly manner and shall follow the directions of the bus driver or other authorized District or contracted transportation personnel.

Students are expected to remain seated as directed, keep the aisle clear, and conduct themselves in a manner that supports the safe operation of the vehicle.

Students may not approach the bus until the entrance door is open. Students must follow all applicable loading, unloading, and crossing procedures intended to protect student safety at bus stops and around the vehicle.

V. Items Permitted on the Bus

Students may bring school-related items onto the bus only when those items can be safely carried and stored without obstructing the aisle, limiting seating capacity, or creating a safety concern. All bags and belongings must fit completely under the seat or on the student's lap in a manner that allows another student to sit on the same seat when needed.

Gym bags, musical instruments, school projects, sports equipment, and similar items are permitted only when they fit on the student's lap or underneath the seat. Items that cannot be safely stored in this manner may not be transported on the bus.

VI. Prohibited Items

Live animals, glass containers, firearms, explosives, weapons, look-alike weapons, toy guns, knives, razors, or any item that could reasonably be considered dangerous, disruptive, or objectionable may not be brought onto the bus.

Balls and other sports equipment are not permitted on the bus unless they fit entirely within the student's school bag and remain secured in the bag at all times while on the bus.

VII. Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents and guardians are responsible for reviewing transportation expectations with their student and ensuring that the student is prepared to follow bus stop, boarding, riding, and exiting procedures. Parents and guardians are also responsible for ensuring that students arrive at the assigned bus stop on time and with only those items that may be safely transported.

Families should understand that bus drivers are responsible for maintaining a safe environment for all riders and may deny transport of items that cannot be safely accommodated or that present a safety concern.

VIII. Transportation Department Responsibilities

The Transportation Department is responsible for communicating transportation expectations, supporting safe and efficient transportation operations, and coordinating with school administration, families, contracted transportation providers, and other District personnel as needed to address transportation-related concerns.

The Transportation Department may review concerns related to student conduct, bus stop safety, prohibited items, or unsafe boarding and exiting practices and may recommend or implement appropriate corrective steps consistent with District procedures and applicable law.

IX. General Provisions

This Administrative Regulation shall be implemented in a manner consistent with applicable law, Board policy, student transportation eligibility requirements, and any legally required student-specific transportation services or accommodations.

Nothing in this Administrative Regulation shall be interpreted to limit the District's ability to make transportation decisions necessary to promote student safety, operational efficiency, compliance, or responsible stewardship of District resources.