

Parkrose School District 3

***** In OSBA but not Parkrose
***** Change in OSBA

Code: EEAC
Adopted: 03/16/92
Readopted: 10/23/95
Reviewed: 03/13/00
Re-adopted: 06/24/02

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

The superintendent will ensure instruction for all students in school bus safety and emergency evacuation procedures is provided. Drivers shall assist in the instruction. ~~The following types of instruction will be given:~~

- ~~1. Emergency evacuation through available emergency exits;~~
- ~~2. Safe operation of windows;~~
- ~~3. Awareness and knowledge of posted bus safety rules and regulations;~~
- ~~4. Location and proper use of fire extinguishers.~~

Students who are regularly transported by the district ~~will be provided such~~ shall receive the following instruction within the first six weeks of each half of the school year.

- 1. Safe school bus riding procedures, including but not limited to loading, unloading, crossing, etc;*
- 2. Use of emergency exits; and*
- 3. Planned and orderly evacuation of the school bus in case of emergency, including participation in actual evacuation drills.*

Students who are not regularly transported by the district will be given *the following* instruction at least once in the first half of each school year.

- 1. Safe school bus riding procedures; and*
- 2. Use of emergency exits.*

The district will document and maintain records of the content and dates of instruction.

Buses will not exceed vehicle design capacity for seating at any time unless an unforeseen or unusual circumstance arises. Passengers will be provided a seat that fully supports them. ~~A child safety system that elevates the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the person shall be provided for all children four or five years of age or who weigh between 40 and 60 pounds, regardless of age, and are transported on district vehicles. A seat that fully supports each person and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law will be provided at all times. A person who is under four years of age or weighs 40 pounds or less must be properly~~

secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Department of Transportation under O.R.S. 815.055. A person who is at least four years of age and under six years of age or weighs between more than 40 and 60 pound, who is four feet nine inches or shorter and under eight years of age must be properly secured with a child safety system that elevates the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the person¹. District vehicles 10,000 pounds or more or equipped with a lap belt only are exempt from these requirements. The child safety system shall meet the minimum standards and specifications of law. A person who is taller than four feet nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055. In accordance with O.R.S. 811.210 and 811.215 vehicles used for student transportation in excess of 10,000 pounds are exempt from this requirement unless they have been equipped with lap belts. Vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds that have been equipped with lap belts must meet child car seat requirements as set forth in law.

During adverse weather conditions, the superintendent may alter bus schedules or temporarily suspend bus services. The superintendent or his/her designee will advise local radio stations and other media of any changes in bus schedules or services.

In the case of emergency or disaster, evacuation of students will be carried out according to the district's emergency plan.

An accident review board will study accidents involving district buses and will make recommendations to avoid similar accidents.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 811.210](#)
[ORS 811.215](#)
[ORS 815.055](#)
[ORS 815.080](#)
[ORS 820.100 - 820.190](#)

[OAR 437-002-0220 to - 0227](#)
[OAR 581-022-1420](#)
[OAR 581-053-0002 to -0015](#)
[OAR 581-053-0512 to -05505](#)
[OAR 735-102-0010](#)

¹ "Proper fit" means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.