

Board Policy 8140

POLICY TITLE: Student Conduct on Buses

[REQUIRED POLICY: A law or administrative rule requires districts to have a policy on at least one of the topics addressed here.]

Student transportation is another component in the District's overall education program. An effective student transportation management program must have the support of the District's administration, school bus the District's drivers, students, and parents/guardians.

The District shall institute a comprehensive student-management program that is designed to share the responsibility for student safety and well-being as well as protect the interests of all others involved in the program.

Students who make use of District-provided transportation shall have a duty and a responsibility to follow the rules laid out in this policy and any additional rules set by their bus driver. Drivers shall instruct students in appropriate behavior in accordance with this policy and any other applicable rules.

Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding School District vehicles as are expected on school property and at school activities, functions, and events and additional specific transportation safety rules. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding a District vehicle or at a school transportation bus stop.

The Superintendent shall establish written rules of conduct for students riding in school vehicles buses. Such rules shall be reviewed annually by the Superintendent and revised if necessary. If the rules are substantially revised, they shall be submitted to the Board for approval.

A copy of the rules of conduct for students using District transportation riding buses shall be provided to students at the beginning of the year. The classroom teacher and bus driver shall review the rules with the students at the beginning of each school year. A copy of the rules shall be posted in each bus and shall be available upon request at the District office and in each building principal's office.

The bus driver shall be responsible for enforcing the rules, and shall work closely with the parent and the building principal to correct student behavior. The rules shall include consistent consequences for student misbehavior.

Due Process

The student and parent/guardian of the student shall receive notice of inappropriate conduct and have the opportunity to address the conduct with school personnel. Recommendations for temporary or permanent termination of transportation bus privileges will be referred to the Superintendent or their designee for final determination. The termination may be appealed to the Board. No further appeal shall be allowed.

A recommendation to terminate transportation bus privileges shall be accompanied by a written record of the incident(s) that led to the recommendation. Said written record shall be provided to the parent/guardian of the student whose transportation bus privileges are being revoked.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

If a student's IEP team determines that special transportation is required and documents it on the IEP, all procedures under the IDEA 2004 must be followed with regard to the student and transportation. The implications of a suspension from District bus transportation depend on whether bus transportation is identified on the student's IEP:

1. If District bus transportation is on the IEP, a suspension from the vehicle bus would be treated as a suspension from school. An exception to this is if the District provides transportation in some other way, such as transportation in lieu of, because transportation is necessary.
2. If District bus transportation is not on the IEP, a suspension from the vehicle bus would not be counted as suspension from school. In this situation, the student and the parent would have the same obligation to get to and from school as a student without a disability who had been suspended from the District transportation bus.