

## Rules and Regulations for Bus Riders

TITLE V, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 14103 STATES: "AUTHORITY OF THE DRIVER: Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across the street, highway or road. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation. A bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus en route between home and school or other destination."

Durham School Services has adopted rules and regulations to assist students in understanding their responsibilities while riding school buses. The rules and regulations set forth in this policy are intended to provide for the safe transportation of pupils.

1. Students are to arrive at their bus stops 5-10 minutes before the scheduled time.
2. Students are to line up single file before the bus arrives.
3. Students must stand 12 feet from the bus and not walk toward the bus until the door opens.
4. Be courteous to fellow students. (No hitting, shoving, or crowding when loading).
5. All students are to be seated quickly and as instructed by the driver with no arguments.
6. Seat belt must be always worn.
7. Animals, reptiles, insects, in glass jars and large parcels are prohibited on a school bus.
8. No smoking, no chewing of tobacco, no drugs of any kind are allowed on a school bus.
9. Any vandalism to seat or other parts of the bus will result in possible suspension and the damage will be paid for by the student's parents.

Any failure on the part of the student to abide by the behavioral guidelines stated here shall be dealt with accordingly. Bus Citations (Notice of Unsatisfactory Conduct) may be issued for the following infractions:

1. Improper boarding/departure procedures.
  2. Failure to remain seated. No Seat belt.
  3. Bringing articles of a dangerous nature aboard the bus
  4. Refusing to obey driver.
  5. Hands or body out of a window.
  6. Throwing objects in the bus or out of a window.
7. Obstructing the aisle with legs, feet and objects or facing the rear in the seat.
  8. Eating or drinking on the bus.
  10. Littering and/or vandalism.
  11. Excessive noise.
  12. Rude, discourteous conduct.
  13. Smoking and/or lighting matches.
  14. Other unacceptable behavior.

Disciplinary action taken by the District includes the following process:

- First Referral – Warning
- Second Referral – Suspension from bus for two days
- Third Referral – Suspension from bus for two weeks
- Fourth Referral – Suspension from bus for two months
- Serious behavior may result in immediate suspension from the bus.

Dear Parents, Your child, \_\_\_\_\_ has been having trouble following the bus rules. I have spoken to your child several times, and have highlighted the rules that are a problem. Please discuss the importance of these rules. Hopefully this action will not only improve your child's behavior, but make it unnecessary to issue a citation. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Bus Driver ROUTE \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return this form indicating that you have discussed this with your child.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_