AP #808 - Student Conduct on School Buses



Transportation

Procedure Manual

Policy Ref: 10, 11, 14, 15

Acceptable student conduct on school buses is achieved through cooperative efforts of principals, teachers, parents, bus drivers, and students.

Parent/Guardian and Division Staff Responsibility

Parents/Guardians are responsible for the supervision of the student before he/she boards the bus from home and after he/she leaves the bus at the drop-off at home.

Students being transported on a school bus are under the supervision, direction, and control of the school bus driver, teacher or other supervisor, and shall be subject to the discipline of the bus driver, teacher, or supervisor.

Student Conduct Investigations and Consequences

In view of the fact that the school bus is an extension of the classroom, students are expected to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards of classroom behaviour.

When a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a school bus, the incident is to be referred to the school principal and the Transportation Supervisor through a completed misconduct report.

The principal will, investigate the incident, determine an appropriate response to the student behaviour as per PRSD's approved responses to inappropriate behavior by students, inform the parents of the misconduct and disciplinary action, and request their cooperation in improving the student's behavior. It is the principal's obligation to take appropriate disciplinary action against unacceptable behaviour whenever it is established that such action is warranted and when the behavior creates safety concerns for both bus driver and the students in his/her charge.

Suspension of Riding Privileges

Students who become a serious disciplinary problem on the school bus may have their riding privileges suspended. Such suspension is under the authority of the school principal in consultation with the Transportation Supervisor.

At times, there will be isolated emergency instances where the situation is a high safety concern and requires that the Transportation Supervisor suspend the riding privileges for a student. In these instances, the Transportation Supervisor shall obtain Superintendent/CEO approval. If approved, the Transportation Supervisor is responsible for communicating the suspension of riding privileges to the students, parents/guardian, and school principal.

All suspensions of riding privileges are to be immediately communicated, by phone, followed in in writing, to the parent/guardian.

A copy of the suspension letter is to be copied to the Superintendent/CEO, who will in turn, notify the Board of Trustees stating the reason for and the duration of the suspension.

During the suspension of riding privileges, the parents are responsible for transportation to and from school.

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Bus Driver and Students - Always Together

Bus drivers are not allowed to remove students from the bus at stops other than their assigned bus stop except under circumstance where there is an extreme safety hazard or a life threatening situation. In such situations, the bus driver will remain with the students and will contact the Transportation Supervisor.

Video Camera on School Buses

Video cameras may be used on school buses for the purpose of reducing discipline problems, thus providing a safer environment for the transportation of students. The reason for recording the transportation environment is to provide school officials, drivers, and parents/guardians with documentation when dealing with inappropriate student behavior.

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