

SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BEHAVIOR OF STUDENTS ON SCHOOL BUSES

Riding a school bus is not a right, but rather a privilege that can be denied if the following rules are willfully disobeyed:

1. 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 a 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. No bus driver shall require any pupil to leave the bus en route between home and school or other destinations. Requests of the driver are to be obeyed without discussion while a bus is en route.
2. Students are expected to be at the bus pick-up point, waiting to board the bus in an orderly fashion.
3. At the discretion of the bus driver, a student may be assigned a specific seat, and shall not be permitted to occupy another seat without permission of the driver.
4. All students are to remain seated until released by the driver.
5. Students shall keep heads, arms, hands, and other parts of the body inside the bus.
6. Students shall not drop or throw material of any kind, either from the bus, or within the bus, or make offensive remarks to pedestrians or motorists.
7. Students shall keep books, packages, coats, or other objects out of the bus aisle. Feet shall be kept out of the aisle. No objects are permitted which impair the ability of the driver to operate the bus, or which obscure his/her vision.
8. Students shall not carry knives, flammable devices, or other hazardous materials or objects on the bus. Seeing eye dogs are the only animals that may be transported on a school bus.
9. Students are to speak in conversational tones only. Profanity is forbidden, as are playing musical instruments, whistling, participating in any commotion that might tend to distract the driver's attention.
10. No pupil shall interfere with another pupil, or molest the property of another student.
11. Students shall not eat or drink beverages on the bus during normal transportation. Eating and drinking on the bus may be arranged for field trips. Breakable glass objects may be transported on a bus only if they are contained in a suitable container that would minimize the hazard in the event of accident or breakage.
12. Use and/or possession of tobacco in any form is prohibited while riding a school bus. Automatic suspension from school will result from any violation of this regulation.
13. Any student found guilty of inflicting willful damage to a school bus will be denied transportation until the parent/guardian has paid the cost of repairs.
14. Students having a need to cross the road when boarding or leaving the bus shall do so only in front of the bus with the driver's permission after all vehicles have stopped or the roadway is clear and safe. Driver shall use flashing lights and shall accompany all elementary students who must cross the road to get home.
15. Pupils who refuse to submit to the authority of the bus driver shall be reported by the bus driver to the principal of the school the student attends as soon as possible after the misconduct occurs.
16. The principal of the school shall reprimand the pupil, and inform the parent or guardian of the offense and the reprimand. The principal shall also inform the pupil and his parent or guardian that if such misconduct persists, the pupil may lose the privilege of being transported by school bus, and/or the school may take other disciplinary action.
17. If immediate disciplinary action is required, the bus driver may reprimand a pupil, and, if the misconduct occurs on the home-to-school bus run, the driver may suspend the pupils involved in the misconduct from the bus run for the following school day. In such case, it shall be the duty of the driver to inform the pupil or pupils, the parents or guardians, and the school principal of such suspensions as soon as possible.
18. Students must present signed written permission from parents or guardians to the driver for any permanent or temporary change in their regular bus schedule.
19. All School Bus Incident Reports must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to the bus driver before a student will be allowed back on the bus.
20. Video cameras may be used on school buses to monitor student behavior while traveling to and from school and school activities. The recording may be considered a student record and used in student disciplinary procedures or referred to local law enforcement as appropriate.
21. Driver or principal may call parent as a courtesy when small, minor behavior problems occur to help resolve the problem before it escalates.

Parents shall be provided with copies of this regulation, and shall acknowledge that they have read and understand these rules. Any parent who has a question regarding transportation or the above regulations should contact the school principal.

We have read and understand the rules for Behavior of Students on School Buses.

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: Parent/Guardian _____