

Expectations and Regulations Regarding Bus Transportations McCarty Elementary School

Parents are asked to reinforce with their children the importance of safety and proper behavior while on board a school bus. All school rules apply while waiting for, riding, and exiting the bus. Within the first week of the school year students will participate in a “bus safety” discussion regarding the safety rules and consequences for inappropriate behavior.

In order to ensure your child’s safe return home we will follow what you have provided us on the Arrival/Dismissal Form with your registration paperwork. If your child will not be riding the bus on any particular day, a note should be written at least 24 hours in advance and given to the classroom teacher with the following information on it: **the date, your child’s name, your child’s bus route number, and who will be picking your child up from school; responsible party.**

This information will be forwarded to the main office to provide consistent staff communication. **Students may only ride their assigned bus to and from school. Students may not bring friends or guests home with them on their bus.** In the event of an emergency proper notification is a priority, therefore, only those students assigned to a particular bus are allowed on board.

The following is a list of expectations and regulations regarding bus transportation:

1. Be at your bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled pick-up time.
2. Be courteous to students and neighbors at bus stops and while traveling on the bus.
3. Ride only your assigned bus.
4. Do not ask to stop at places other than the regular bus stop.
5. Cooperate with and obey the driver at all times.
6. Do not litter the bus or bus stop.
7. Do not use profane language.
8. Remain seated at all times.
9. Do not throw objects at, on, or from the bus.
10. Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus and to yourself.
11. Do not vandalize equipment.
12. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
13. In case of an emergency, evacuate the bus in an orderly pre-practiced manner.
14. All school rules apply at bus stops and on the bus to and from school.

The following are possible consequences for misbehavior while on a bus:

1. A bus referral will be filed by the driver, given to administration and the parent will be notified.
2. Recommendations:
 - **1st Offense**- a verbal warning and/or an assigned seat will be given and a copy of the referral will be sent home.
 - **2nd Offense**- student’s bus privilege can be suspended for up to 5 days; documentation of such is done via written letter to the child’s parent.
 - **3rd Offense**- student’s bus privilege can be suspended for up to 10 days; documentation of such is done via written letter to the child’s parent.
3. Suspension of bus privileges requires parents/guardians to provide alternative transportation.
4. Fighting on the bus will result in appropriate and immediate action.

If it is deemed for the safety of all students riding the bus, an immediate bus suspension may be imposed without a previously reported offense.

If your child has a concern about an incident on the bus, please ask them to share the concern with the bus driver immediately and with school staff. This information should be provided before getting off of the bus. The bus drivers are expected to investigate appropriately and if justified complete a referral form. A student with concerns should work with his/her bus drivers. Referrals will be given to administration and appropriate intervention at the discretion of the administration will be issued.