

BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

2023-24

School Bus Rules

In order to maintain a safe and orderly atmosphere on all Benton Public School buses the following rules have been established and must be followed to retain bus riding privileges.

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Remain properly seated at all times.
3. Keep your hands, feet, all body parts, and objects to yourself.
4. Do not use profanity, rude language, rude gestures, or tease/bully anyone on the bus.
5. Do not litter, write on, or damage (\$50 fine for seat damage) the bus in any way.
6. All school handbook rules are to be followed.

Consequences for Violations of Bus Rules

Students who violate bus rules will be subject, but not limited to, the following consequences.

1. First bus discipline report - written warning/ 3 day bus suspension
 2. Second bus discipline report- five-day bus suspension
 3. Third bus discipline report- ten-day bus suspension
 4. Fourth bus discipline report- bus privileges denied for the remainder of the school year.
 5. Severe Clause: A student who distracts a bus driver from his/her responsibility of safely driving the bus or who engages in conduct endangering other students such as but not limited to fighting, smoking/vaping, or disrespect toward the bus driver will receive an immediate suspension from riding if a severe infraction occurs. Suspension time for a severe infraction could result in the denial of bus riding privileges for the remainder of the year.
- A suspension from one Benton bus is a suspension from all buses operated by the Benton Public School District.

Riding the Bus

- 1. Ride only the bus to which you are assigned. The Benton Public Schools do not permit visitors on our buses.**
- 2. Follow the directions of the driver. Students are under the direct supervision of the driver while on the bus.**
- 3. Do not distract the driver's attention or disturb other riders on the bus.**
- 4. Remain seated at all times. Follow the directions of the driver as to when it is appropriate to stand on the bus.**
- 5. Students must not block the aisle with any books, musical instruments, legs, or feet.**
- 6. Musical instruments are permitted if they are small enough to be held in the students' lap without taking another seat.**

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Meeting the Bus

- 1. Arrive at your scheduled stop at least 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time.**
- 2. Stay at least 10 feet away from all streets.**
- 3. Before crossing a street or road to get on the bus, wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver gives you directions.**
- 4. Respect the property rights of others while waiting for the bus. Do not litter or damage property.**
- 5. Stand back at least ten feet from the bus stop and do not approach the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the door is opened.**
- 6. If you miss the bus, do not try to ride another bus to school.**

Entering and leaving the Bus

- 1. Students will board and depart the bus only at their assigned stops.**
- 2. Enter and leave the bus quickly and in an orderly manner. Do not enter or leave the school bus by the back door unless in an emergency, as directed by the driver.**
- 3. If you must cross the street after leaving the bus in the afternoon, go to the point on the shoulder of the street ten feet in front of the bus and wait until the driver has signaled you to cross.**
- 4. If you drop any object (book, paper, pencil) while leaving the bus, do not attempt to retrieve the object until the bus has left and the streets are clear of other vehicles.**

Stop for Flashing Lights!

- 1. Motorists are reminded that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus whenever its red lights are flashing, as students are present.**
- 2. Drivers face fines and other penalties if found to be passing a school bus when the flashing lights are on or the stop sign is extended.**