

Good afternoon,

As most of you know, we have had challenges on bus HH4 involving poor student behavior nearly every week. Considering the age of the children on this bus, this is very upsetting. We have worked with the bus company to get regular reports from the bus driver, ensure that a camera is on the bus each day, and have taken other steps to help us understand what is going on during this ride.

Whenever we can identify the student or students involved in bad behavior, we have taken actions that usually work to solve the solution. These actions include speaking to the students involved, speaking with their parents or guardians, loss of privileges in school and temporary loss of bus privileges.

Please understand that we are working with some serious constraints. First of all, the bus driver is not meant to be a disciplinarian or constant supervisor of behavior. The driver's primary job is to drive the bus – get students safely to and from school. None of us want the driver distracted by student behavior which could take their eyes off of the road. Second, removing a child from a bus route could mean that child can't get to school – that is taking away our ability to educate them and that is something we are very reluctant to do.

However, the normal actions that we have taken are not solving the problem. Unfortunately, we have to take more serious steps to ensure this is a safe ride for all. The good news is that the solution remains very simple – The students need to behave properly on the bus. I am very confident that every one of these children behave in a car when their mother, father, or grandparent is driving. They know how to behave; some are choosing not to.

We are working with the bus company to ensure that any concerns can be dealt with the day they happen or the morning after they happen. With that, we are implementing the following plan for this bus and asking your assistance with it.

1. We need all parents/guardians to speak with their child about simple bus behavior rules.
 - a. Move quickly to your assigned seat
 - b. Sit down with seatbelt on for the entire trip
 - c. Keep your hands to yourself
 - d. Keep the noise level down
 - e. Follow the instructions of the driver
2. We will investigate any concern brought to us by a student, parent/guardian, or bus driver as soon as possible.
3. If this investigation reveals that a student or students have violated any of the above rules, the following will be enforced. As the behavior on this bus has been a topic of discussion between the Principal and the students on the bus for some time, a “warning” has already been given on multiple occasions.
 - a. First offense - Removal of bus transportation privileges for 3 days, meeting of parent/guardian with Principal before privileges restored.

- b. Second offense - Removal of bus transportation privileges for 10 days, meeting of parent/guardian with Principal and Superintendent of Schools before privileges restored.
- c. Third offense – Removal of bus transportation privileges for remainder of school year.

These are serious steps that we are not taking lightly. We hope that we do not have to take them at all. But we really need your help to make that happen. Please discuss with your child the serious consequences of bad bus behavior. We just want our students to get safely to and from school so we can teach them best! Thank you!

Please sign this letter and return to school so we know that you have seen it. Thank you.



I have seen and read the bus behavior letter sent home from the school.

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Date _____