

FAYETTEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES

5.19 - CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student's transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Students are eligible to receive district bus transportation if they meet the following requirements:

General Rules

- A. All students must obey the driver's direction promptly and without argument.
- B. Drivers are authorized to assign seats, at their option, to avoid misconduct.
- C. There is to be no eating or drinking on the bus except bottled water.
- D. Students are to stay in their seat and face forward at all times.
- E. Students must keep the bus aisle clear of books, bags, feet, legs, etc. at all times.
- F. Students must keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves at all times.
- G. Students may not bring on board balloons, glass, live or dead animals, skateboards, or any item too large to hold in the student's lap or fit under the seat in front of the student (this includes musical instruments).
- H. Students must keep their hands and head inside the bus at all times.
- I. Students are not to tamper with safety equipment or use emergency exits unless instructed to do so by authorized personnel.
- J. No loud or distracting noises are allowed including singing, yelling, or screaming.
- K. No vandalism to school or personal property is allowed.
- L. Students are not allowed to spit or throw objects on the bus or out the window of the bus.
- M. No pushing, shoving, fighting, or any other physical or sexual contact is allowed.
- N. No ethnic, racial, or derogatory comments toward students or school personnel will be tolerated.
- O. No matches, lighters, or other flammable materials are allowed on the bus.
- P. No exhibition of gang-related behavior, throwing gang signs, gestures, verbal threats, etc. is allowed.
- Q. Students are expected to maintain proper conduct while at designated bus stops.
- R. Any actions by a student that are deemed unsafe are prohibited.

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Penalties

- 1st Infraction:
Warning and parent contact
- 2nd Infraction:
Up to three (3) days bus suspension
- 3rd Infraction: Bus Suspension
Up to ten (10) days bus suspension
- 4th Infraction: Bus Suspension
Minimum – Thirty (30) days bus suspension
Maximum – Indefinite suspension from the bus for up to one (1) school year

Severe Rules Violations

- A. Possession of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vape pens, and/or related material is not allowed.
- B. Possession of weapons such as guns, knives, razor blades, tasers, etc. is not allowed.
- C. Profanity toward or verbal abuse of a school employee is not allowed.

Penalties/Categories

- 1st Infraction: Bus Suspension
Minimum – ten (10) days
- 2nd Infraction: Indefinite suspension from the bus for up to one (1) school year

Bus suspension includes all school district buses.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ESCALATE ANY PENALTY BASED ON THE SEVERITY OF THE ACT.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-19-119 (b)
Ark. Division of Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing
Maintenance and Operations of Ark. Public School Buses and Physical
Examinations of School Bus Drivers 4.0

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