

City of Rochester School Department

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Students Who Ride the Bus:

As we begin this new school year, it is a good time to ask for your assistance in reviewing with your child the positive behavior we expect on the bus. Please take some time to talk with your child about how he/she can make positive choices on the bus. It is likely that the bus is the most unstructured time in your child's day. Working with your child to develop a plan for this downtime can help create the positive environment we are striving to establish. This might include reading a book, practicing math facts, talking quietly with a seatmate or playing a rhyming game. I am sure there are many other ideas you can come up with as a family.

Bus Expectations

Be respectful.

What does this look like?

- Cooperate with the bus driver; follow directions the first time they are given.
- Treat others with respect.
- Use kind and respectful words.
- Keep the bus clean and free of damage.
- Use headphones when listening to music or games.

Be safe.

What does this look like?

- Remain seated (remember to face forward) until you reach your destination. Keep your body and things out of the aisle. *Always stay in your seat while the bus is in motion.*
- Use your classroom voice.
- Keep your hands, feet and whole body inside the bus and to yourself.
- Keep objects to yourself – do not throw anything on the bus or out the windows of the bus.
- When using phones, keep them out of the aisle; light glare distracts the driver.
- Eating, drinking, smoking and vaping is not allowed on the bus.

Follow All Bus Rules & Protocols*.

What does this look like?

- When you board the bus move directly to your assigned seat. *Always stay in your assigned seat.*
- Board and exit the bus as directed by the bus driver.
- Students may ride only on the bus to which they have been assigned and board and or exit ONLY at their assigned stop. *Friends cannot ride home with your student.*

*Students who do not comply with bus rules and protocols will be excluded from riding the bus.

Our goal is that students have a safe and respectful ride to and from school. We greatly appreciate your support in helping to reinforce these expectations with your children.

Respectfully,

Christine Hebert
Assistant Superintendent of Schools