



Wagoner Public Schools Transportation Rules



Bus Transportation Phone is: 485-3007

The Wagoner Public Schools' Board of Education has established the policy that riding a bus is a *privilege*. Students not observing these safety regulations and guidelines could be subject to loss of bus riding privileges. It is important that every student be entitled to a safe trip to and from school. An unsafe rider is not tolerated.

Note: Bus riders are subject to being video taped while on the school bus.

BUS REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS

1. Be on time at the bus stop. Wait for the bus to come to a complete halt before trying to board and, if you must cross a road, wait for your driver to signal you across with his hand. Always cross at least 10-feet in front of the bus.
2. When necessary, there could be at least three persons in a seat, and the practice of saving seats for other students will not be allowed. **STUDENTS MUST SIT FACING THE FRONT.**
3. After boarding the bus, you must remain in your seat until the bus reaches your designated stop. Any alternate stops must be approved in advance with the transportation office. **STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO USE THE BUS NEAREST THEIR HOME.**
4. Any damage to bus fixtures or equipment must be paid for by students responsible for the damages.
5. Keep the aisles clear of items, such as musical instruments, school projects, etc. If you must carry personal items on the bus with you, please hold them in your lap or store them under the seat. Flowers, balloons and other party favors are not permitted on the bus.
6. At no time will a student put hands, head, or other parts of his body out the window. Students should not talk to others outside the bus. Don't be loud or boisterous on the bus. Excessive noise can distract the driver and could result in a serious accident. Radios, CD and tape players, headsets and hand games are not allowed.
7. Absolute quiet at all railroad crossings.
8. Do not throw any objects inside or outside the bus. This could obstruct the view of an oncoming vehicle's driver and result in an accident or cause the driver to have to stop suddenly, causing injury to passengers. This includes spitting.
9. Food or beverage may not be sold or consumed on the bus. Loose papers or food may cause a slipping hazard, or possible choking. This includes gum or candy.
10. The driver has the responsibility to correct any student on the bus for riding unsafely.
11. **COUSTESY TRANSPORTATION (RIDING AN ALTERNATE BUS FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES AS SCOUTS, OUTSIDE SCHOOL ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES, BIRTHDAY PARTIES, MUSIC PRACTICE OR GOING TO VISIT OTHER STUDENTS) IS NOT PERMITTED. STUDENTS MUST HAVE SPECIAL PERMISSION (IN ADVANCE) FROM TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS AND ADMINISTRATION IN ORDER TO RIDE AN ALTERNATE BUS. A LETTER MAY BE WRITTEN FOR PRE-APPROVAL, AND WILL BE KEPT ON FILE IN THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE.**
12. Students can be denied permission to ride a bus to and from school if they choose not to cooperate with the driver.
13. Fighting, abusive language or gestures, failure to cooperate with school personnel, possession and/or use of drugs, alcohol, weapons, lasers, etc are major violations that will result in automatic bus suspension or revocation of your riding privilege, and you may be subject to arrest.
14. Students who board a bus without permission may be suspended from school, non-students may be subject to arrest.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS, AND DRIVERS

1. The school bus is considered an extension of the classroom. The *Administration* has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the discipline of all children riding buses.
2. It is the parents' responsibility to discuss with the child the provisions of this contract and to work with the school administration.
3. The parent must assume responsibility for the behavior of the child while riding the bus.
IF PERMISSION TO RIDE THE BUS IS REVOKED, THE PARENT MUST PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL FOR THE CHILD UNTIL SUCH TIME AS REINSTATEMENT MAY BE MADE. Bus suspension must be served in the consecutive days stated, even if it is an inconvenience to parents.
4. Drivers have the authority to enforce all bus rules. Any student refusing to obey these rules may be reported to **TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES and ADMINISTRATION** and may lose bus riding privileges.
5. These bus regulations and list of responsibilities should be kept by the parents or guardian for reference during the school year.
6. It is the responsibility for the bus driver to discuss this document and contract with students, and to make sure each student and his/her parent(s) signs it and return the contract to the driver.

BUS DISCIPLINE ACTION PLAN

- DRIVER:** For minor disruptive misbehavior, such as, not sitting properly, name calling, eating on the bus, etc., the driver will follow these guidelines.
- First Offense:** Verbal warning.
- Second Offense:** Assign a different seat for a minimum of three (3) days, but not limited to three (3) days. (Bus drivers have the authority to assign seats to any or all students for any length of time for any reason.)

ADMINISTRATION:

- Third Offense:** (Parent contacted by phone) A Bus Discipline Report will be submitted to the administrator for bus discipline. The administrator may conference with the student at school, than notify parent of the action taken. Student could forfeit bus riding privilege for three days.
- Fourth Offense:** (Parents contacted by phone) Student will forfeit ride for five (5) days. Parent and Student must attend a conference with the Administration to reinstate riding privilege.
- Fifth Offense:** TERMINATION OF BUS RIDING PRIVILEGE.

Students, whose behavior is such that it directly jeopardizes the safe operation of the school bus, or directly challenges the authority of the driver, will lose their riding privilege without receiving previous warnings. Immediate loss of riding privilege will result from vandalism, fighting, abusive language or gestures directed toward school personnel, failure to cooperate with driver, possession and use of drugs, weapons, etc., throwing/spitting objects or any other actions that jeopardizes the safety of student passengers or school personnel.

THE DISCIPLINE STEPS LISTED ABOVE ARE THE ONES NORMALLY FOLLOWED TO CORRECT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR; HOWEVER, STEPS MAY BE ALTERED IF THE BEHAVIOR MERITS A MORE SEVERE DISCIPLINARY ACTION TO CORRECT THE BEHAVIOR. WHEN BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES ARE REMOVED FOR THE GIVEN NUMBER OF DAYS, THERE WILL BE NO FLEXIBILITY REGARDING THE CONSECUTIVE DAYS INVOLVED. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THERE TO BE TIME SEPARATION BETWEEN THE DRIVER AND STUDENT. YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.