

POLICY 537

SCHOOL BUS DISCIPLINE POLICY & CONSEQUENCES

Adopted: May 22, 2012 (District Policy)

Revised: February 8, 2022

BUS DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students who have the opportunity to ride Minnesota Motor Bus and district school buses may do so as long as they display behavior that is reasonable and safe. Choosing to engage in unacceptable behavior may result in loss of bus service. The bus driver is responsible for the safety and discipline of students on the bus.

The building principal or designee is available to give assistance to the transportation provider and will determine the consequences of misbehavior. Any suspension applies to all buses, including activity buses. A student who has lost riding privileges for the year may have riding privileges reinstated for activities after a minimum 20 school days suspension. The responsibility for student supervision by the District shall begin when the student boards the bus in the morning and is retained until the child leaves the bus at the end of the day or until released to the parent/guardian in a manner consistent with guidelines on release of students.

TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL RELATED/NONRELATED ITEMS

Under the Laws and Rules for the Operation of School Buses in the State of Minnesota, it is stated: "... no materials, including: guns, loaded or unloaded; gasoline cans, empty or full; animals or any other object of dangerous or objectionable nature are transported in the school bus when children are being transported."

Band instruments that will be allowed on the bus are those that are small enough to be held on the student's lap. Instruments may not be in the aisle or take the space of a student. Hockey sticks, baseball bats, golf clubs, sleds or any other unacceptable recreational equipment will not be allowed on regular buses. Damage to personal items is not covered under the bus contractor's/district's insurance coverage.

ASSIGNED BUSES ONLY

Students are assigned to buses and bus stops. No change in either the bus or the stop is permitted without authorization from Minnesota Motor Bus, Inc. A student must have a note that indicates the student's destination and is signed by school office personnel in order to ride on a bus not assigned to that student.

Class 1 Offenses

1. Spitting
2. Excessive noise
3. Horseplay/mischief/distracting behavior
4. Eating/Drinking/Littering
5. Leaving seat/standing/moving around bus without permission
6. Inappropriate use of liquid containers
7. Profanity/verbal abuse/obscene gestures
8. Possession of contraband according to school policy
9. Riding unassigned bus or using unassigned bus stop
10. Opening window past safety line
11. Riding bus while under suspension
12. Insubordination to driver/paraprofessional/teacher
13. Inappropriate cell phone usage
14. Throwing/shooting objects
15. Possession of laser pointers
16. Other offenses as reported by the driver or adult supervisor
17. Vandalism to bus (restitution will be made)

Possible Class 1 Consequences (Not limited to)

1. Apology
2. Clean up mess
3. Reimbursement of items
4. Loss of privileges
5. Parental contact/conference with
6. Detention (lunch/recess/after school)
7. Suspension from bus service

Class 2 Offenses

1. Placing body parts outside of windows
2. Throwing objects that strike driver
3. Bullying/Physical aggression toward others
4. Threats/profanity directed toward others
5. Possession/use of tobacco, alcohol, or any other controlled substance
6. Holding on to or attempting to hold on to any part of the outside of the bus
7. Lighting of matches, lighters, or any other device that creates flame. Possession of flammable substances
8. Unauthorized use of emergency exit doors
9. Possession or threat of weapons/explosives
10. Use of laser pointer to distract driver
11. Numerous infractions of the class 1 offenses
12. Other offenses that the driver perceives as dangerous or a distraction to their ability to maintain control of the bus.

Possible Class 2 Consequences (Not limited to)

1. Apology
2. Clean up mess
3. Reimbursement of items
4. Loss of privileges
5. Parental contact/conference with
6. Detention (lunch/recess/after school)
7. In school suspension
8. Out of school suspension
9. Contact law enforcement
10. Suspension from bus services
11. Expulsion from bus services

School officials reserve all rights to remove bus services at any time. The bus and the bus stops are extensions of the school day. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats. The Harassment Policy, Weapons Policy, Bullying Policy, and all other School District #2752 policies will be strictly enforced on the school bus.