



ILLINI BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT #327

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Transportation Policies and Information

DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Bus Transportation

The district provides bus transportation to and from school for all students living 1.5 miles or more from the school. For safety reasons, it is important that our students only have one AM pick-up location and one PM drop-off location. Students will only be able to ride their assigned morning and afternoon bus – there will be no exceptions to this policy. Annually, parents/guardians will be asked to fill out a transportation form indicating their child's pick-up location and drop-off location.

(IBES Only)

If a bus driver sees that no one is home the driver will return the student to the school and be placed in the Aftercare program, and a \$7.00 charge per child will be assessed. Every effort will be made to contact the parents regarding the whereabouts of the child.

Rules and Expectations

While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, student bus problems will be investigated and handled by the building principal. Parents will be informed of any and all inappropriate student behavior on a bus. Parents are encouraged to discuss bus safety and appropriate behavior with their children before the beginning of the school year and regularly during the year.

In the interest of the student's safety and in compliance with Illinois state law, students are expected to observe the following rules:

- School bus riders, while in transit are under the jurisdiction of the school bus driver unless the local Board of Education designates any adult to supervise the riders.
- Students should be ready to board the bus at the designated stop and at the time scheduled, both in the morning and at school in the afternoon. The driver is responsible for keeping on schedule and should not wait for tardy students.
- Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.
- Be careful in approaching the place where the bus stops. Do not move toward the bus until it is completely stopped and the driver signals you.

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- Observe safety precautions at the discharge point. Where it is necessary to cross the highway, walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus on the right shoulder of the highway so you can see traffic movement in both directions. Wait for a signal from the bus driver before you cross.
- Students must wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before exiting, except in the case of an emergency.
- Students must be absolutely quiet when approaching a railroad crossing.
- The following items are NOT to be transported on school buses: pets, reptiles, or any other animal, glass containers or other fragile items, aerosol cans of ANY kind, tobacco/alcohol, or weapons.
- Students should treat bus equipment properly. Report to the driver any observed damage to the bus. Never tamper with the bus or its equipment.
- Students who damage the bus WILL BE charged for repairs, including parts and labor.
- Students may not eat on the bus.
- Students should help keep the bus clean, sanitary, and orderly.
- Students must identify themselves to the bus driver if requested to do so.
- Students are to remain in their seats while the bus is in motion, keep hands and feet inside the bus at all times and refrain from throwing any items of bus windows.
- Keep the bus aisles free of book bags, packages, coats and all other items.
- Students should be sure they have all belongings when exiting the bus.
- Observe the same rules and regulations on other trips under school sponsorship as you observe between home and school. Respect the wishes of the chaperones and drivers appointed by the school.
- Parents are NOT allowed to board any school bus without first gaining permission from the school principal.
- Any unnecessary confusion diverts the driver's attention and could result in a serious accident. Loud conversation, singing, boisterous conduct, unnecessary noise or profanity in not allowed.

In the event of emergency, stay on the bus and await instructions from the bus driver.

Good behavior and behavior that will not distract the bus driver from operating the bus safely is required. Crowding, pushing, scuffling, fighting, hitting, cussing and other needless commotion are grounds for disciplinary action and may result in removal from the bus (at the Principal's discretion) for a designated length of time.

Video and audio cameras may be active on busses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct or accidents on the bus.

For questions regarding school transportation issues, please contact the Illini Bluffs Transportation Department at 309.389.5735.

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Disciplinary Action: Bus Transportation

If a discipline problem is determined to be severe, a student may be suspended from the bus immediately. In all cases, alternative discipline may be imposed when appropriate (i.e. indefinite bus suspensions, school Detentions, out of school suspension, etc.) If a bus student chooses to break a bus rule, the following will apply:

LEVEL 1 Bus Report: Driver submits a School Bus Discipline report to the building principal. The principal verbally warns the student. A written notice will be sent home with the student and a phone call will be attempted.

LEVEL 2 Bus Report: Driver submits a School Bus Discipline report to the building principal. The principal, transportation director and the bus driver will have a conference with the student. IF the principal confirms the offense, the student is suspended from the bus for a period of 3-5 days. Parents and student are given a written notice and a phone call will be attempted.

LEVEL 3 Bus Report: Driver submits a School Bus Discipline report to the building principal. The principal, transportation director and the bus driver will have a conference with the student. If the principal confirms the offense, the student is suspended from riding the bus for a period of 5-10 days. Parents and student are notified in writing and a phone call will be attempted.

LEVEL 4 Bus Report: Driver submits a School Bus Discipline report to the building principal. The principal, transportation director and the bus driver will have a conference with the student. If the principal confirms the offense, the student is suspended from riding the bus with the recommendation for removal from the bus for the rest of the semester due to chronic misbehavior. The recommendation is made to the school board. Parents and student are notified in writing and with a phone call.

Please note: If the offense is serious and/or endangers the safety of others, the building principal may suspend the student from the bus for one to ten days; regardless of the number of previous bus conduct report.

Please call the IB Transportation Department at 309.389.5735 with any questions.

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