

School City of Whiting Bus Conduct (8600)- April, 2016

Bus Assignments: Students are assigned to buses by the school, and they must ride the bus to which they are assigned. The student must present his/her School City of Whiting ID card upon the driver's request. The drivers have been directed to refuse to transport any student assigned to another bus without prior approval. **No student, under any circumstance, will be allowed to ride the bus without a School Bus Consent and Code of Conduct Form on file with the school.**

Bus Conduct: The School City of Whiting administration views the school buses as an extension of the school and the bus drivers as an extension of the school staff. All student rules of conduct of each individual school apply to students who ride the bus. Proper student behavior is expected on the bus at all times. Students are responsible for following all directions from the driver while riding the bus. The following additional rules of conduct are to be adhered to at all times by students on Whiting buses:

- A. Students are to remain seated at all times.
- B. Loud, boisterous, or profane language, or indecent conduct is prohibited.
- C. Students may not extend arms or head out of bus windows.
- D. No windows or doors will be opened or closed except by permission of the driver.
- E. No food or beverage may be consumed on the bus at any time without prior authorization from the bus driver.
- F. Any damage to buses will not be tolerated. Students can be held financially liable for damage the caused to School City of Whiting property.
- G. Students shall not tease, scuffle, trip, hold, hit, or use their hands or feet or body in any other objectionable manner.
- H. Students shall not enter or leave the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the door has been opened by the driver.
- I. In accordance with School Board policy 5136, students are permitted to use personal communication devices (PCDs) while riding to and from school on a board approved vehicle.
- J. Use of PCDs is limited to activities that do not produce additional noise on the bus. Any use of PCDs must be done with headphones/earbuds. Only one earbud is to be worn at any given time.
- K. Use of a PCDs for purposes of flash photography, sending or receiving live telephone calls or video calls (i.e. FaceTime or Skype) is prohibited at all times.
- L. Students must understand that the driver is required by law to maintain good discipline on the bus, and this can be accomplished by the cooperation of pupils, parents and driver.

Seat Assignments: Students will be assigned seats by the driver and are not permitted to change seats without permission from the driver.

Penalties for Bus Violations: Any violation of school and/or bus rules and regulations will be reported by the driver to the appropriate principal. Violation of any of the rules and regulations can result in lost of bus riding privileges and/or disciplinary action. In the event that it has been determined that a student has caused any damage to the bus or bus property, disciplinary action will be taken and restitution may be requested.

Digital Video Recorders on School Buses: The School Board has authorized the installation of digital video recorders on school buses for the purposes of monitoring student behavior. Actual recording of the students on any particular bus will be done on a random-selection basis. If a student is reported to have misbehaved on a bus and his/her actions were digitally recorded, the tape will be submitted to the principal and may be used as evidence of the misbehavior. Since these recordings are considered part of a student's record, they can be reviewed only in accordance with Federal Law.