

Foreman Bus Service

Steve Bistodeau, Manager

715 9 Ave SW
Aberdeen, SD 57401
(605) 226.5968
Fax (605) 225.0455

To: School Bus Patrons
From: Steve Bistodeau

RE: School Bus Rules for Students

The Aberdeen School District contracts with Foreman Bus Service to provide transportation services for their students. The District offers busing services to K-8 students who reside 5 miles or more from their school and to students with special needs. Students granted in-district transfers and open enrolled students are not eligible for busing.

On behalf of Foreman Bus Service, I would like to thank you for using our transportation services. We are dedicated to providing the safest possible ride for your child to and from school.

For the bus driver to perform his/her job in the safest possible environment, your child/children need to be aware of, and behave in a manner consistent with the enclosed rules. If these rules are not followed, the driver's attention will be taken from the road. **Please review the enclosed bus rules with your child/children and return the completed form to your bus driver by September 1st.**

Other Parent/Guardian Reminders:

1. Please call the dispatch office at 226-5968 when your child/children will not be riding the bus in the morning.
2. Please call us with any phone number changes so we have current phone numbers to contact you.
3. If you are aware of changing road conditions that could make traveling questionable, please contact our office immediately.
4. You will be given a pickup time. The bus could be 5 minutes earlier or 5 minutes later than this given time. Please be prepared for this 10-minute window.
5. BE ON TIME! The bus needs to stay on schedule. Your child should be waiting for the bus not the bus waiting for your child.
6. Help keep the bus clean. Use the waste paper basket.
7. Communicate with the driver. The driver needs to know if there is a situation that needs his/her attention.
8. DRESS APPROPRIATELY! If it is 20 degrees below, we suggest coats, boots, hats, and gloves.

If you have any questions, please call 226-5968.

Enclosures

School Bus Rules for Pupils

1. The following rules have been adopted in the interest of student safety.
 2. While riding in district-provided transportation, students are expected to display courteous behavior and obedience to rules.
 3. Students who are waiting for, entering, or leaving bus pickup areas are expected to act in a responsible manner so as not to infringe on the rights of others.
 4. The driver is in full charge of the pupils and the bus.
 5. If seats are assigned, pupils must occupy the seat assigned to them. Once seated, a student must retain that seat for the term of the ride.
 6. The same courteous conduct as is expected in the classroom must be observed while on the bus. Ordinary conversation is permitted. Loud and vulgar language is not permitted.
 7. Pupils must not, at any time, put hands, arms, or heads out of the bus windows.
 8. Pupils must await the signal from the driver to cross a road or highway, then cross promptly. The crossing should be made approximately 10 feet in front of the bus, in full view of the driver.
 9. Pupils are to refrain from other disruptions. Disruptions reported by the bus driver and approved by the school principal will be deemed a violation.
 10. Please inform the driver if your child has a health problem, such as diabetes, epilepsy, etc., that you feel he/she should be aware of.
 11. Students who change to a different route for one or more days must present to the driver a note signed by a parent/guardian detailing the reason for the change.
 12. Failure to observe the above rules as determined by the principal may necessitate the following action:
 - 1st Violation – Warning from the bus driver and a written report to the school principal to be presented to the parent/guardian.
 - 2nd Violation – Suspension of bus privileges for five school days.
 - 3rd Violation – Suspension of bus service for ten school days. Continued violations could result in further ten day suspensions or suspension of bus privileges for the remainder of the school year.
- Note: the penalty for the 1st and 2nd violations may be increased if, in the judgment of the driver and principal, the infraction is of a serious nature (i.e.: Fighting, possession of lighters, possession of weapons, etc.)
13. In cases of suspension, the action will not be in effect for the same day and will not be invoked until the parent/guardian is notified and provisions are made for the student to return home.
 14. In any case of suspension, when the student or the parent/guardian requests a review, the Director of Transportation may conduct a review.
 15. The request for a review is made by the parent/guardian to the principal or assistant principal of the child's school.
 16. A review consists of an examination of the facts as presented in the written documentation and discussed with one or more parties to the issue. The Director of Transportation may then enter a finding and establish orders with respect to the dispensation of the case.
 17. If the parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the outcome of the review in #16, he/she/they may request an informal review conference in the presence of the Director of Transportation. Such a review, if held, will be held as soon as practicable, and the suspension will be postponed pending the outcome of the review conference.
 18. In keeping with uniformity, there shall be no deviation from the suspension days as stipulated for the violations without approval of the Director of Transportation.
 19. In order that there is no misunderstanding of the above, we are requesting that the parents/guardians of students, as well as the student riding the bus, sign the acknowledgment on the Bus Service Agreement.