

Blytheville School District
Code of Conduct and Bus Travel form

What is the Code of Conduct?

The Code of Conduct is a set of behavioral guidelines for students to follow when traveling on school buses. It forms the basis of the bus rules developed to manage student behavior.

Who does the Code apply to?

It applies to all students who use our school buses to travel to and from school.

How does the Code benefit your child?

If a student does not follow the Code the following action may be taken.

- The bus driver will speak to the students and try to resolve the situation.
- If the behavior continues the bus driver will complete a student school bus conduct report and inform the Transportation Director. The TD will send home a School Bus Disciplinary Report to the parents that may prohibit the students from traveling on the bus for an appropriate period of time. Travel to and from school is then the parent's responsibility.
- In case of a serious breach of the Code of Conduct, the student will immediately be prohibited from traveling on the bus for an appropriate period of time. The student is still being required to attend school as normal.

What responsibilities do bus drivers have?

- The bus driver is responsible for providing a professional and courteous service. All bus drivers must treat students with respect. This includes not using abusive or offensive language and generally maintaining personal standards behavior in keeping with other professionals who are responsible for the care of children. Drivers will not leave the bus while students are on board.

At the Bus stops.

- Face Masks are to be worn while riding the bus.
- Students should be standing at the bus stop and in line at least 5 minutes before the school bus arrives. This is for the safety of all students on the route
- Bus drivers will assign a seat to any student K-12 on a daily basis or as needed. This will help keep the bus a safe place to be. The students are responsible for the seat in which they sit. They need to tell the bus driver if something happens or is happening that is disruptive to bus operations or destructive to school property.
- If a student is habitually late, he/she will be verbally reminded to be on time. If this persists, a student conduct report will be issued.
- Once a student has boarded the bus and the bus is en route, the student will be transported to the school. Students will not be allowed to leave the bus and return home.
- There will be times when the bus is late. This may depend on a number of factors. If the bus is more than 10 minutes late, contact the Service Center 870-763-0551. Information will be provided on when the bus should arrive.

At the School Loading Zone

- Once a student is on board a school bus, and the bus is en route students will be expected to ride the bus to their authorized bus stop
- If a parent/guardian would like for their child to ride home with them after school they should call the school ahead of time so the student can be notified not to board the bus.
- Students at all schools need to be on their bus and in their seats prior to departure time from school. Once the bus doors close and the bus begins moving it will not stop for latecomers or runners this is dangerous.
- The buses will be lined up before students are released from school. If students must wait well back from the curb (3ft) and remain alert to oncoming bus traffic.
- Students should not approach the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the bus driver opens the door.
- Principals, duty teachers and bus drivers should work together to ensure that all students are trained in bus loading procedures.
- Primary and Kindergarten students will be walked to their bus by a responsible adult chaperone.

Student Tracking

- A list of regular bus riders will be made for each bus routes and supplies to the school, bus driver, and the Transportation Department.
- Bus change request forms will be provided to the bus driver and the Transportation Department in advance of any bus change.

Student Conduct

- Students are to represent the school district in a manner that will bring credit to them, their parents, the school and team, group that are representing
- Dress should be appropriate for the activity and within the dress code guidelines of the school, team they are representing.
- The Transportation Director, Principal may deny permission to travel and attend activities individually and by group/team if it appears that student do not have the maturity and self-control to conduct themselves in a manner, which reflects the high standards of Blytheville School District.
- Students must not use the bus as a dressing room. Students should not expose undergarments or change clothing on or in district vehicles.

Bus Routes and Bus Stop Assignments

- Because of liability issues, drivers are not authorized to allow children to change buses or stop at an unauthorized stop.
- Students must and should sign up for Bus Transportation at the time they register their child for school.

Items on the “TO and FROM SCHOOL” Bus Routes

- Carry on items must be held on a student’s lap or fit within their own seating area
- Any object that takes up a seating space or creates a hazard on the bus will not be allowed.
- Bus drivers are given the authority to determine which objects may be too large or present a potential hazard on the bus.
- Items left on the bus will be taken off the bus at the end of the route and turned in to the lost and found at the bus garage.
- Arrangements to pick up lost items can be made with the Transportation Department

How can parents/guardians help?

AS A PARENT AND/OR GUARDING, I DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING RECEIVED AND GONE OVER THESE POLICIES WITH MY CHILD.

Name of Student

Grade

Address

Contact Phone Number

Parent and/or Guardian Signature

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us:

Carolyn Barnes

Director of Transportation

Office: 870-763-0551

Cell: 870-762-6230

Email: cbarnes@blythevilleschools.net



Safety is always our #1 concern!!

8/13/2020