



# Bus Rules and Behavior Expectations

- The school bus driver's authority and responsibility is to maintain control of students.
- When accused of something that could result in a suspension of riding privileges, your child has a right to due process as provided for by the policies and procedures outlined in their student handbook.
- Pupil management and safety policies include the following (see rule 3301-83-20 of the Ohio Administrative Code):
  1. Students shall arrive at their bus stop **5 minutes** before the bus is scheduled to arrive. If a driver arrives at a stop ahead of a scheduled pick-up time, the driver will wait until the scheduled pickup time, however the driver will not be expected to wait for late arrivals.
  2. Students must wait in a location clear of traffic, away from where the bus stops, and wait for the driver's signal before approaching the bus. (The driver will designate a "place of safety", at the bus stop that each student is required to use. The "place of safety" will be at least 20 steps or more away from the bus. When getting off at the bus stop, students must return to the "designated place of safety" and remain in this area until the bus departs)
  3. Behavior at the school bus stop and on the bus must not threaten life, limb or property of any individual.
  4. Students must go directly to an available or assigned seat so that the bus may safely resume motion.
  5. Students must remain seated in a manner that keeps aisles and exits clear.
  6. Students must observe conduct similar to what is expected in a classroom and obey the driver promptly and respectfully. This also means that noise levels should be kept reasonable, so as not to distract the driver.
  7. The use of profane language, gestures, remarks or signs is prohibited. This includes the broadcasting of such with personal devices.
  8. Students must refrain from eating and drinking on the bus except as required for medical reasons.
  9. Students must not use tobacco on the bus. This includes "vaping" and e-cigarettes.
  10. Students must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus except for prescription medication required and prescribed specifically for that student.
  11. Students must not throw or pass objects on, from or into the bus.
  12. In general, students may only carry on the bus, objects that can be held in their lap. Large repeat-use, curriculum-based or school equipment, (example, musical instruments) will be allowed on a bus only with prior request and on a case-by-case basis. One-time school projects do NOT fit this exception.
  13. Students must leave or board the bus at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have parental and administrative authorization to do otherwise.
  14. Students must not put head or arms out of the bus windows.
  15. Animals are not allowed on the bus, except trained service animals.