

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Series 700

Policy Title Student Conduct on School Transportation

Code No. 711.02

Students utilizing school transportation will conduct themselves in an orderly manner fitting to their age level and maturity with mutual respect and consideration for the rights of the school vehicle driver and the other passengers. Students who fail to behave in an orderly manner will be subject to disciplinary measures.

The driver will have the authority to maintain order on the school vehicle. It is the responsibility of the driver to report misconduct to the building administrator.

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses used for transportation to and from school as well as for field trips, curricular or extra-curricular events. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior and may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding. The videotapes are student records subject to school district confidentiality, board policy and administrative regulations.

After three (3) warnings for bad conduct, the building principal will have the authority to suspend transportation privileges of the student or impose other appropriate discipline.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the building principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding student conduct and discipline when utilizing school district transportation.

Legal Reference:

Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 285; 321 (2013).

Cross Reference:

503.00 Student Discipline

506.00 Student Records

Date of Adoption: May 13, 2014 (Revised)

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations: _____

Student Conduct on School Transportation

All persons riding in school district vehicles will adhere to the following rules. The driver, sponsor or chaperons are to follow the school bus discipline procedure for student violations of this policy. Video cameras may be in operation on the school buses.

1. Bus riders will be at the designated loading point before the bus arrival time.
2. Bus riders will wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter.
3. Riders must not extend arms or heads out of the windows at any time.
4. Aisles must be kept cleared at all times.
5. All bus riders will load and unload through the right front door. The emergency door is for emergencies only.
6. A bus rider will depart from the bus at the designated point unless written permission to get off at a different location is given to the driver.
7. A rider may be assigned a seat by the driver.
8. Riders who damage seats or other equipment will reimburse the district for the cost of the repair or replacement.
9. Riders are not permitted to leave their seats while the vehicle is in motion.
10. Waste containers are provided on all buses for bus riders' use.
11. Permission to open windows must be obtained from the driver.
12. Classroom conduct is to be observed by students while riding the bus except for ordinary conversation.
13. The driver is in charge of the students and the vehicle and the driver is to be obeyed promptly and cheerfully.
14. Students will assist in looking after the safety and comfort of younger students.
15. A bus rider who must cross the roadway to board or depart from the bus shall pass in front of the bus (no closer than 10 feet), look in both directions and proceed to cross the road or highway on signal from the driver.
16. Students will not throw objects about the vehicle nor out through the windows.
17. Shooting paper wads, squirt guns or other materials in the vehicle is not permissible.
18. Students will keep feet off the seats.
19. Roughhousing on the vehicle is prohibited.
20. Students will refrain from crowding or pushing.
21. The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco or lookalike substances is prohibited in the vehicle.
22. The Good Conduct Rule is in effect.

Use of Recording Devices on School Buses

The board supports the use of recording cameras on school buses as a means to monitor and maintain a safe environment for students and employees. The recording cameras may be used on buses used for transportation to and from school, field trips, curricular events and extracurricular events. The contents of the recordings may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding.

Student Records

The content of the recordings is a student record subject to board policy and administrative regulations regarding confidential student records. Only those persons with a legitimate educational purpose may view the recordings. In most instances, those individuals with a legitimate educational purpose may be the superintendent, building principal, transportation director, bus driver and special education staffing team. A parent may view the recordings without consent from any student or parent of a minor student also shown in the recording if the other students are bystanders. But if there is an altercation between multiple students, then all parents must give consent in order for the recordings to be viewed by parents.

A recording during a school-sponsored trip, such as an athletic event, may also be accessible to the sponsor or coach of the activity. If the content of the recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary proceeding, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Notice

The school district will annually provide the following notice to students and parents:

The George-Little Rock Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of recording devices on school district buses. The recording devices will be used to monitor student behavior to maintain order on the school buses to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents are hereby notified that the content of the recording may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the recording are confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Recordings will only be retained if necessary for use in a student disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view the recording of their child if the recordings are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

The following notice will also be placed on all school buses equipped with a recording camera:

This bus is equipped with a recording/audio monitoring system.

Review of Recording Devices

The school district will review the recordings. The recordings may be re-circulated for erasure after 30 days.

Viewing of the recordings is limited to the individuals having a legitimate educational purpose. A written log will be kept of those individuals viewing the recordings stating the time, name of individual viewing and the date the recording was viewed.

Recording Monitoring System

Recording devices will be rotated randomly on school district buses.

Determination of how recording devices will be used and which school buses will be equipped with recording equipment will be made by the superintendent in consultation with the building principals and transportation director.

Student Conduct

Students are prohibited from tampering with the recording devices on the school buses. Students found in violation of this regulation will be disciplined in accordance with the school district discipline policy and Good Conduct Rule and will reimburse the school district for any repairs or replacement necessary as a result of the tampering.