

School Bus Rider Guidelines

Rules and guidelines regarding student conduct on a school bus are based on state law, Ohio Department of Education guidelines and Hilliard City School District policies. These guidelines and rules are in place to help create, foster and maintain safe, efficient and proper school bus environments for all students and staff.

The school bus driver is the district representative in charge of the bus. The instructions of the driver need to be followed and respected by the students. Their instructions guide students as they board and leave the bus and help manage student conduct during the ride.

Expectations for student conduct include the following:

- Students need to arrive at their bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive;
- Students need to wait quietly in a location clear of traffic and a safe distance from the bus stop. This is often referred to as the designated place of safety;
- Students at the bus stop must not threaten any individual;
- When boarding the school bus, students are to go directly to their assigned seat;
- Students need to remain seated during the bus ride, keeping the aisle and exits clear;
- Students need to observe classroom conduct while riding the bus;
- Students must not use profane language;
- Students must refrain from eating and drinking on the bus except as required for medical reasons;
- Students must not use tobacco on the bus;
- Students must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus except for prescription medication as required;
- Students must not throw or pass objects on, from or into the bus;
- Students may carry on the bus only objects that can be held in their laps;
- Students must not put head or arms out of the bus windows;
- Students must be quiet at railroad crossings until the bus entirely clears the crossing;
- Students must leave or board the bus at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have written parental and administrative authorization to do otherwise; and,
- Students must follow their school's student code of conduct while on the bus. All expectations of proper behavior and restrictions against misconduct apply while on the bus.

Administrative Intervention, Action and Discipline

Our team works closely with all district principals and administrators to help create, foster and maintain safe, efficient and proper school bus environments. In situations where a student's conduct and/or actions are not in-line with the above referenced guidelines and according to the Student Code of Conduct, corrective actions for misconduct on a school bus will follow appropriate district policy. Minor infractions may involve corrective action by the driver at the time or a follow-up call to a parent. Serious or repeated infractions will result in an incident report submitted to the school administrator for further intervention. Corrective action and/or discipline may involve suspensions from bus transportation, including immediate removal from a bus if warranted.