



Book	Policy Manual
Section	800 Operations
Title	Transportation - Student Discipline
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Purpose

Use of the Springfield School District (“District”) transportation system is a privilege. District bus drivers or District contracted bus drivers are charged with a great responsibility when transporting children of the District. Unnecessary noise and inappropriate behavior by passengers can distract the driver and jeopardize the safety of everyone riding the bus. Appropriate behavior is expected of students when using the system. Failure to follow expected behaviors while using the system may result in temporary or extended revocation of bus riding privileges.

Authority

The Board of School Directors (“Board”) has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing the conduct of students when using the transportation system.

School rules from Policy No. 218, Student Discipline, where applicable, apply to students using the District transportation system. Infractions of school rules may provide cause for the imposition of discipline as spelled out in the student behavior code of Policy No. 218. In addition, the transportation privileges may be suspended for continued misconduct while using the transportation system. Loss of riding privileges may increase in duration, depending on the number and type of infractions incurred by the student.[1]

Delegation of Responsibility

The principal may suspend a student from bus transportation for disciplinary reasons, and the parents/guardians shall be responsible for the student’s transportation.

Expected Behaviors

The following are expected behaviors of students using District transportation. Students are expected to enter the bus, take a seat and remain in their seat until they approach their bus stop for discharge. While talking is a normal occurrence while riding the bus, noise levels should be kept at a reasonable level to avoid distraction of the driver. Drivers must be able to hear noise exterior to the bus, such as sirens from emergency vehicles. High levels of noise within the bus may deteriorate the driver's hearing ability and reduce reaction time in an emergency situation.

Inappropriate behavior, fighting and horseplay are prohibited when using the transportation system, which may result in referrals by the driver.

Discipline

Continued referrals of a student by a bus driver to a building principal may result in suspension of bus riding privileges of the student. If inappropriate behavior continues by the student, riding suspension duration may increase. The following are recommended levels of suspension enforceable by the building principal:

No. of Referrals	<u>Disciplinary Action</u>
2	Warning and notification to parents
3	Second warning and written notification to parents or riding suspension on next referral
4	One (1) day of riding suspension
5	Five (5) days (one week) of riding suspension
6	Ten (10) days (two weeks) of riding suspension
7	Remainder of school year of riding suspension

Depending on the severity of the infraction (i.e. fighting or damaging a bus, steps may be skipped and penalties escalated deemed appropriate by the administrator.

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