Administrative Regulation

Student Conduct; School Bus, Standards for

Providing transportation for students is a supplementary service supplied by the state of California and the citizens of the district. The opportunity to utilize this transportation service is a privilege and, as such, is dependent upon the continued cooperation and safe conduct of each passenger.

The school principal is responsible for the conduct of all pupils before boarding the bus and after being discharged from the bus. However, the responsibility for proper student conduct on the bus is solely that of the bus driver.

The following rules concerning conduct for bus riders should be clearly communicated to all students and teachers. These rules shall be listed in the student handbooks.

A. Standards of Good Conduct and Safety for Bus Riders

- 1. Students shall arrive at the bus stop not more than five minutes before the bus arrives.
- 2. Students shall board the bus in an orderly manner at the scheduled time and only at the scheduled stop. Students may not ride a bus unless they have been regularly assigned to that bus. Changes in bus assignments must be approved by the maintenance and operations coordinator.
- 3. Students shall be seated as directed by the driver and pupils shall remain seated until they have reached the destination. A school bus may not be put into motion until all pupils are seated.
- 4. Students are under the authority of, and directly responsible to, the bus driver, as determined by the regulations of the state department of education.
- 5. Student passengers may talk to each other in conversational tones while the bus is in motion.
- 6. Students are not permitted to bring glass jars on the bus unless the jars are in lunch boxes or comparable containers.
- 7. Students may not leave their seats until the bus comes to a complete stop.

- 8. Students may not take live animals, including insects, spiders, or sea life, aboard the bus except licensed guide dogs, fitted with muzzles.
- 9. Students shall leave the bus in an orderly fashion and, if crossing the street, do so only as directed by the driver.
- 10. Students may not leave the bus at any other time than their regular stop, regardless of grade level, without parental written consent.

B. Disorderly Conduct of Bus Riders

The bus driver, by state Board regulations, is responsible for the orderly conduct of pupils transported. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver, under regulations of the state Board of Education, shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation. The following are examples of disorderly conduct:

- 1. Opening the emergency doors
- 2. Manipulating or disturbing any of the instruments in the driver's compartment, such as switches, steering gear, gear shift, and brake
- 3. Operating the door mechanism or in any other way interfering with its operation
- 4. Exposing arms or body outside the bus window
- 5. Refusing to cross the street as directed by the bus driver
- 6. Throwing objects from the bus windows
- 7. Spitting on other persons
- 8. Continuous boisterous conduct, including fighting, shouting, and use of profanity
- 9. Refusing to remain seated while the bus is in motion

- 10. Smoking or using any controlled substance
- 11. Consuming food or beverages while on the bus

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Ref: CCR, Title 5, Sections 14100-14104

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