

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

- I. In view of the fact that for many students the school bus is an extension of the classroom, the Board shall require students to conduct themselves, while on the bus, in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Students shall obey all rules that apply to bus riding for their own safety and protection, as well as for the safety and protection of others. A set of behavior guidelines shall be developed by the administration and will be distributed annually to all students who qualify for bus transportation. Corrective action shall be taken with riders who misbehave on school buses.
- II. The bus driver, who has authority to reassign seats, shall talk to students to resolve discipline problems as outlined in Part V, and shall report misbehavior to bus company officials.
- III. In cases when a student shows improper conduct, such misconduct shall be brought to the attention of the bus company officials by the bus driver. Bus company officials will review the student conduct and, at their discretion, shall provide written notification to the appropriate school administrator. Parental notification of disciplinary problems is to be initiated by the administration. The bus riding privilege may be suspended by the principal or referred to the Board of Education with a recommendation for expulsion from school provided transportation for continuing or extremely serious problems. In such cases, the parent of the student becomes responsible for seeing that the student gets to and from school safely and is in regular attendance.
- IV. All bus rules and regulations apply to any trip under school sponsorship. Students who go on school trips shall return with the same method of transportation, except that permission to leave the group may be granted by the person in charge if consent of the parent/guardian is obtained, preferably before the trip.
- V. Penalties for Misbehavior Reported to the School
 - A. Actions that may result in a first written warning and/or other appropriate administrative action:
 1. Loud talking on the bus
 2. Moving around or standing up while bus is in motion
 3. Getting off the bus at the wrong location without permission
 4. Opening windows without driver authorization
 5. Eating or drinking on the bus

- B. The following behaviors or actions shall result in a one- to three-day bus suspension, a written communication by a school administrator and, if necessary, other appropriate administrative action:
1. Threatening, bullying, or harassing other students
 2. Throwing objects at the bus, out of the bus, or on the bus
 3. Littering
 4. Using profane language
 5. Sexually explicit comments or actions .A second bus referral for misconduct
 6. Spitting
 7. Insubordination/disrespect toward the driver
 8. Use of alcohol, tobacco products and/or controlled substances
 9. Fighting
 10. Destruction of and/or vandalism to bus
 11. Conduct, which endangers the health, safety, or property of others
 12. A third referral for misconduct (second one-day suspension)
- VI. Parents of students suspended from bus riding privileges shall be notified in advance of the suspension.
- VII. In instances where inappropriate behavior is not corrected, or in instances where behavior endangers the health and/or safety of self or others, the Superintendent, upon receipt of written documentation, may initiate an immediate and extended bus suspension that may be followed by a recommendation for expulsion from bus service privileges. Such situations will include full due process considerations provided by state statutes.
- VIII. The Port Washington-Saukville School District shall not discriminate in the standards or rules of behavior and disciplinary action, including suspensions and expulsions, on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, color or handicap, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

Cross reference:

Administrative Guideline 5620 – Student Conduct on Buses

Board Policy 5610 – Suspension and Expulsion

Board Policy 8600 – Transportation

Adopted: 7/15/01

Revised: 1/14/08; 3/12/15

The Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Special Services, Port Washington-Saukville School District, 100 W. Monroe Street, Port Washington, WI 53074 - Duane.Woelfel@pwssd.k12.wi.us