

BUS CONDUCT

Bus Rider Rules

The following rules apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including when on school activity trips:

1. Riders shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.

(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)

2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop on time and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus.

(cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)

3. Riders shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.
4. Riders shall sit down and fasten any passenger restraint systems. Riders shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.
5. Riders shall not block the aisle or emergency exit with their body or personal belongings. Riders may bring large or bulky items, such as class projects or musical instruments, on the bus only if the item does not displace any other rider or obstruct the driver's vision.
6. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgarity, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.
7. Any noise or behavior that could distract the driver, such as loud talking, scuffling or fighting, throwing objects, or standing or changing seats, is prohibited and may lead to suspension of riding privileges.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

8. Riders shall not use tobacco products, eat, or drink while riding the bus.

(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

9. Riders may bring electronic devices onto the bus only if such devices are permitted at school. If the use of cellular telephones or similar devices disrupts the safe operation of the school bus, the bus driver may direct the student to no longer use the device on the bus.

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(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

10. Riders shall not put any part of the body out of the window nor throw any item from the bus.
11. Riders shall help keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment.
12. Service animals are permitted on school transportation services; all other animals are prohibited. (Education Code 39839; 13 CCR 1216)

(cf. 6163.2 - Animals at School)

13. Upon reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and upon the signal from the driver, unfasten any restraint system, enter the aisle, and go directly to the exit.
14. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow the district's transportation safety plan when crossing the road and exiting the bus.

(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)

The driver or any passenger shall report any violation of the district's bus rules to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the misbehavior, determine the severity of the misconduct, and take action accordingly. In instances of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined appropriate by the principal or designee.

Bus drivers shall not deny transportation services except as directed by the principal or designee.

Bus Surveillance Systems

The Vacaville Unified School District recognizes the importance of providing safe and secure transportation for students and staff, and the need to monitor student conduct on the district's school buses. Digital video cameras have been installed on district school buses for the purpose of ensuring student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall monitor the use and maintenance of the district's bus surveillance system. Students are prohibited from tampering with the bus surveillance

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system. Any student found tampering with the system shall be subject to discipline and shall be responsible for the costs of any necessary repairs or replacement.

(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)
(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

Cameras will be placed within the school bus in such a manner as to provide the greatest possible visual and audio coverage of the bus, its driver, and its passengers. The recording equipment will be placed in or near the driver's compartment and secured to limit access. Conspicuously placed signs shall notify riders this vehicle is equipped with a digital video security system.

Only the transportation director, bus drivers, transportation staff, principals, police, and district administrators shall be authorized to view the videos. Personnel will review recordings under the following conditions:

- A. a driver reports a disciplinary issue;
- B. a parent request;
- C. an administrator request;
- D. a law enforcement request;
- E. as part of a periodic review of bus safety and security, including but not limited to, the review of buses with on-going or previous histories of disciplinary issues. This review shall be done on random buses at least twice a month.

In addition, a written log will be maintained of those viewing recordings to include the date of the viewing, date of the recording, reason for the viewing, the driver, specific route and bus, and person viewing the recording and notes.

The content of any recording is a student record and may only be accessed in accordance with the district's policy and administrative regulation concerning student records.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Regulation
Adopted: September 1, 2005
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VACAVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Vacaville, California