

Student Conduct on School Buses

Students using District transportation must understand that they are under the jurisdiction of the School from the time they board the bus until they exit the bus. Additionally, Board policy JICDD applies to “out-of-school” student conduct, including, but not limited to, conduct at or near school bus stops.

The Superintendent or his/her designee and the transportation contractor will develop rules and regulations for conduct on buses, which shall be printed in the Parent-Student Handbook, made available on the District and/or school website, and provided in other languages as needed.

Students transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of the District and under the immediate control of the bus driver. The driver of the bus, along with the bus monitor, if applicable, shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the students transported. Although the primary responsibility of the driver is to safely transport students to and from school, they are also the “first line of defense” when maintaining order and safety during transport. Drivers will use a Bus Disciplinary Report to provide details regarding unacceptable student behavior which will be given to the transportation contractor and the school Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal will take appropriate action, using the Bus Behavior Matrix, to determine the response to the behavior; camera surveillance may be used to investigate certain behaviors (see policy ECAF).

Failure to abide by the school’s bus conduct rules, may result in a student being denied or suspended from the privilege of transportation in accordance with the RSA 189:9-a. Additionally, conduct on District transportation is subject to additional interventions, supports or consequences as provided in the Bus Behavior Matrix in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Parents/guardians of students who have had bus privileges suspended have a right to appeal the suspension within 10 calendar days to the person who issued the original suspension. Transportation suspensions exceeding 20 days must be approved by the Board. Transportation suspensions shall not begin until the next school day following the day written notification of suspension is sent to the pupil’s parent/guardian. The Superintendent shall include such appeal and review procedures in the School Bus Conduct Rules referenced in the preceding paragraph. Transportation suspensions may extend to all District transportation according to the Student Bus Conduct Rules.

Parents are expected to transport their child to and from school during times of suspension. If a student cannot find transportation during a suspension, he/she is responsible for completing all missed class/homework.

Mr. Robert DeColfmacker, Chairman
 Mr. Bob Ouellette, Vice Chairman
 Mrs. Sandra Taliaferro
 Mrs. Brennan Peaslee
 Mrs. Mary Collins

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Bus Behavior Matrix for SAU 101

Behavior	Minor	Major*
Consequences	First offense - Written Warning Second offense - 1 day bus suspension Third offense - 5 day bus suspension Fourth offense - 10 day bus suspension Fifth offense - 20 day bus suspension Sixth offense - loss of bus privilege for remainder of school year	First offense - 3 day bus suspension Second offense - 5 day bus suspension Third offense - 10 day bus suspension Fourth offense - 20 day bus suspension Fifth offense - loss of bus privilege for remainder of school year
Defiance/ Disrespect	Student fails to comply with simple requests. Student responds inappropriately to request.	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Student engages in a prolonged or high intensity failure to respond to peer <u>or</u> adult request or to repeatedly not follow bus expectations.
Disruption	Student behavior creates an unsafe environment. Examples include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not sitting properly in the seat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crawling under seat ○ Standing in the aisle ○ Not facing forward/turning around in seat ● Loud Distractions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yelling/screaming ○ Popping balloons ○ Chanting 	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Disruption that is persistent and intended to draw attention. Examples include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Throwing food ● Squirting water bottles
Non-Compliance/ Insubordination	Student behavior interferes with safety and respect of bus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eating, drinking, chewing gum on the bus ● Littering 	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Throwing objects out of the bus ● Hanging any body parts out of the window
Abusive/ Inappropriate Language and Profanity	Student uses a low-intensity swear or near swear or offensive gesture which is not directed toward an individual.	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Student directs inappropriate, profane, abusive language, racial slurs, or offensive gestures towards or about others. Three or more minors will result in a major. Repeated majors directed towards others may be investigated for harassment.

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Physical Contact/ Physical Aggression	Non-serious but inappropriate physical contact. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pushing • Rough play • Slapping • Kicking • Poking • Pinching 	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Any contact resulting in physical injury intentional or not. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kicking with force • Slapping with force • Punching • Hair pulling • Scratching • Spitting • Tripping Student employs mannerisms or language which conveys a challenge to fight or create an unsafe environment.
Fighting	No minor offense	Student engages in significant physical contact with another person (student or adult) with the intent to harm.
Technology Violation	No minor offense	Student is responsible for displaying inappropriate images to self or others
Dress Code	No minor offense	Tops, bottoms, and footwear that sufficiently cover the body <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No revealing of private body parts
Out of Bounds	Student does not sit in assigned seat. • Not sitting in assigned seat (if applicable)	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply to bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Student deliberately gets off bus at the wrong stop.
Misuse of Property/ Vandalism	Student hides or moves peer's materials or supplies with the intent to disrupt. Student fails to use materials for its intended use. Student unintentionally causes damage to bus or personal resources.	Three or more minors, and/or failure to comply with bus driver's instructions/directions (initial warning) Student participates in substantial destruction or disfigurement of property. Student deliberately or repeatedly causes damage to bus or personal resources. Student knowingly participates in substantial destruction or disfigurement of property. Student deliberately causes destruction to belongings of high personal or monetary value.
Forgery/Theft	No minor offense	Student is in possession of, has passed on, or is responsible for removing someone else's property without the person's permission.
Bomb Threat/ False Alarm	No minor offense	Student plans or participates in the delivery of a message of possible explosive materials being on bus, school property, near school property and/or pending explosion. Notify law enforcement
Arson	No minor offense	Student plans or participates in the burning of the bus. Notify law enforcement

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<p>Possession, Distribution and/or Sale of Unsafe or Illegal Items on Bus</p>	<p>No minor offense</p>	<p>Student possesses, uses, distributes, or sells alcohol, drugs, tobacco, combustible, or other unsafe substance or item which could harm or does harm an individual or property. Any student who appears to be under drug influence, parent/guardian will be notified to come and remove him/her to his/her home or to medical facility. Student found selling; distributing or giving away drugs or drug paraphernalia actions will be reported to the Somersworth Police Department. Student in possession of knives or guns (real or look-alike), or other objects readily capable of causing bodily harm. Student who brings a firearm Notify law enforcement</p>
<p>Inappropriate Display of Affection</p>	<p>No minor offense</p>	<p>Student engages in consensual excessive or illegal contact of a sexual nature with another student or adult. Notify law enforcement</p>

*Certain major offenses may result in longer suspensions and/or alternative consequences.

- Notes for drivers

- Bus drivers must contact the Wakefield Police Department for the following:

- suicidal and homicidal language ■ threats of violence against the bus ■ inappropriate sexual touching
- possession of weapons, drugs, alcohol, paraphernalia, etc.
- other significant safety concerns

- Discipline procedures will comply with state and federal laws

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Bus Disciplinary Report

Date:						
Student's Name:			School:			
Student's Address:			Driver's Name:			
Phone Number:			Route #	AM	PM	
Minors	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense	5th Offense	6th Offense
	Written Warning	1 Day Bus Suspension	5 Day Bus Suspension	10 Day Bus Suspension	20 Day Bus Suspension	Loss of bus privilege for remainder of school year
Defiance/Disrespect						
Disruption						
Non-compliance/Insubordination						
Abusive/Inappropriate Language and Profanities						
Physical Contact/Physical Aggression						
Out of Bounds						
Misuse of Property/Vandalism						
Majors	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense	5th Offense	
	3 Day Bus Suspension	5 Day Bus Suspension	10 Day Bus Suspension	20 Day Bus Suspension	Loss of bus privilege for remainder of school year	
Defiance/Disrespect						
Disruption						
Non-compliance/Insubordination						
Abusive/Inappropriate Language and Profanities						
Physical Contact/Physical Aggression						
Fighting						
Technology Violation						

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Dress Code						
Out of Bounds						
Misuse of Property/Vandalism						
Forgery/Theft						
Bomb Threat/False Alarm						
Arson						
Possession, Distribution and/or Sale						
of Unsafe or Illegal Items on Bus Inappropriate Display of Affection						
Comments:						

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