

FGAC Morgan School District

Bus Conduct

This policy establishes responsibilities for the groups who contribute to pupil transportation management. It also establishes rules, procedures and consequences for the benefit, safety and well-being of students.

This information will be given to administrators, operators and students. Parents will receive information regarding the policy and parent expectations via the internet, mail and/or student delivered information packets/handbooks.

Transportation services are provided to eligible riders on assigned busses at authorized bus stops. Other riders may be limited based on a variety of factors including space and funding.

Student Expectations

- 1) Student conduct that occurs on the bus which may warrant or requires suspension or expulsion under the Safe School policy, FHA.
- 2) Students are to follow the directives of the driver.
- 3) Students are to refrain from using profane language, racial slurs or other derogatory comments.
- 4) Students have the responsibility to help keep the bus clean. Paper, wrappers, etc., are to be put in the appropriate trash container and not on the floor. Damage from vandalism will be the responsibility of the student or his/her family.
- 5) Students may not use or carry the following on the bus: tobacco of any kind, alcohol, matches, lighters, illegal drugs or laser lights; skateboards, roller blades, and other large items are not allowed on the bus.
- 6) Students are not to be destructive with seats, windows, floor coverings or painted surfaces. Writing on a bus exterior or interior will not be tolerated.
- 7) Students must stay seated and keep hands, feet, and personal items to themselves at all times.
- 8) Students must keep their head, hands, feet, and clothing or bags inside the bus at all times.
- 9) Students are not permitted to have weapons or ammunition on the bus. This includes replicas of weapons.
- 10) Students unloading from the bus who must cross the street must cross in front of the bus following these steps:
 - a) After exiting the bus, students should walk 10 feet past the front of the bus, being careful not to step into the road.
 - b) Students should wait for the driver to signal to cross the street.
 - c) Students should look both ways to make sure that the path is clear and the traffic has stopped before crossing the street.
 - d) Students should then proceed immediately across the street to avoid delaying stopped traffic and the continued transportation of other students.
- 11) Bullying in any form will not be tolerated.
- 12) If food spills, it is the responsibility of the student to clean up the spill.

Advisor and Operator Responsibilities

- Be familiar with all rules, policies and procedures affecting pupil transportation
- Establish rapport with each building administrator and work to ensure proper conduct and communications
- Establish proper rapport with pupils and instruct pupils in proper behavior, general procedures and drills
- Minimized interior noise
- Controlled passenger movement
- Orderly entrance and exit
- No movement of objects
- Silence at railroad crossings
- No transportation of unauthorized materials
- Discussions and seat assignment to handle minor infractions
- Use of appropriate forms to inform persons dealing with discipline problems of serious or recurring misconduct
- Observation of FERPA and rules governing confidentiality.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Become familiar with rules and regulations
- Encourage children to abide by rules and regulations
- Assist children in understanding rules and regulations
- Recognize their responsibility for the actions of their children
- Effect desirable changes in their children's behavior
- Support safe riding practices
- Support procedures for emergency evacuation
- Support procedures for safely crossing the highway before boarding and after leaving the bus
- Support procedures to follow in emergencies
- Support respect for the rights and privileges of others.
- Volunteer to help chaperone trips

Disciplinary Actions

Transportation privileges may be temporarily denied or permanently suspended if a student's conduct does not comply with district policies and procedures. When a student enters the school bus, authority lies with the bus driver and the school district. District drivers will make every attempt to work with students and parents to resolve behavior or safety issues. When a student is unable or unwilling to abide by established standards or their personal actions jeopardize the safety of other passengers, the student shall be formally disciplined. If the action is severe or violates the Safe Schools Policy, one or more steps may be skipped and additional Safe Schools Policy consequences added. The following steps are included in the discipline process.

Step 1.

On the first incident, which may be a Level I Safe Schools offense, the student will receive a written warning, with a copy sent to the principal. If possible, the parents will be called by the transportation director or the bus driver. The warning must be signed by the parent and returned with the student before he or she is allowed back on the bus the following morning.

Step 2.

On the second incident or a Level II Safe Schools offense, the student will receive a written suspension. Parents, the student, a representative from the transportation department, and school authorities will meet and a plan of action will be established to correct the student's behavior before he or she will be allowed back on the bus. Parents need to call to make an appointment for this meeting at 801-829-0731.

Step 3.

On the third incident or a Level III Safe Schools offense, the student will be suspended from all riding privileges for a period of time appropriate for the offense up to a maximum of one full school year. The student may also be referred to the Superintendent for consideration in regards to expulsion from school for a period up to one year.