

Snowline Joint Unified School District Bus Conduct and Safety

The State Board of Education Regulations Section 14236 governing transportation states:

“Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation in accordance with regulations of the Governing Board of the District.”

School bus rules of conduct are established first and foremost to ensure that the student has a safe ride to and from home. The school bus is an extension of the classroom, and appropriate behavior is expected at all times. Regulations apply at all times when the students are riding a school bus, including field trips. Students at the bus stop are subject to the same rules as when riding the bus. Students who are identified as causing vandalism at the bus stop or exhibiting disruptive behavior at the bus stop may lose their bus riding privileges.

Safety Rules on the Bus

1. Bus passes must be displayed each time requested by District personnel.
2. Students shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.
3. Students may talk quietly with the person seated next to them. Orderly behavior is required at all times while aboard the bus. Students are to remain seated at all times when the bus is in motion.
4. Students are to keep all parts of their body inside the bus.
5. No eating, drinking or gum chewing allowed at any time on the bus.
6. No profane language, abusive body contact, obscene gestures or any unnecessary noise is allowed.
7. Horseplay & Fighting are not permitted on a school bus.
NOTE: Fighting & Horseplay shall result in immediate revocation of bus riding privileges for all participants regardless of who may have instigated the incident.
8. Smoking or lighting of matches on the bus is prohibited by law.
9. Students are not to shoot or throw any objects at or within the bus.
10. Breaking windows (any glass), cutting of seats and other damage/vandalism to the bus will result in immediate revocation of bus privileges until all damages have been paid.
11. Because serious safety hazards can result from noise or behavior that distracts the driver, loud talking, laughing, yelling, singing, whistling, spitting, scuffling, standing, changing seats, inappropriate sexual conduct and indecent exposure are prohibited actions which may lead to revocation of bus privileges.
12. Animals, (ie: birds, fish, reptiles, insects), breakable containers, inflated balloons, skateboards, weapons, or any object that could be hazardous will not be permitted on the school bus.
13. Students are not allowed electronic items at school or on school bus. (radios, electronic games, iPods, cd players, etc.) Pagers, beepers and cellular phones are to be turned off and out of sight.
14. Students shall not be allowed to load or unload at any other bus stop or bus route other than the student's assigned/designated bus stop & bus route without driver receiving written authorization from parent and/or school.
15. Students must never open, close or tamper with any parts of the bus equipment or emergency exits.
16. California law requires a school bus with passengers aboard to stop at all railroad crossings. Students must remain absolute silence when approaching and while stopped at the crossing so the driver can look and listen for approaching trains.

Failure to abide by one or more of these rules may result in the revocation of bus riding privileges. Students who fail to comply shall be reported to Transportation Department staff who shall determine the severity of the misconduct and shall take action accordingly. In the case of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the student may be denied transportation privileges for a period of time determined by the Transportation staff in accordance with District Policy, up to the remainder of the school year.