

## Rules of Safe Conduct for All Bus Riders

### **Bus Conduct**

1. Riders shall wear their seatbelts at all times and follow the instructions of the bus driver at all times.
2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop **5 minutes** prior to the bus arriving and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus.
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.
6. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgar, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.
7. Any noise or behavior that could distract the driver is prohibited and may lead to suspension of riding privileges.
8. Riders shall not eat, drink or chew gum while on the school bus. Bottled Water is okay.
9. Riders may not use electronic devices while on the school bus. Riders need to be able to listen and hear instructions from the bus driver at all times.
10. Riders shall not bring skateboards or any wheeled devices on the school bus. (skateboards will be permitted under the bus, wheels up)
11. Riders shall not wear hats of any kind while on the school bus. (School team baseball caps permitted for games and beanies during cold weather)
12. Riders shall not put any part of the body out of the window nor throw any item from the bus.
13. 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. Video cameras are installed on all school buses.
14. Service dogs are permitted on school buses; all other animals are prohibited.
15. Upon reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and upon the signal from the bus driver, unfasten any restraint system, and go directly to the exit.
16. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow all laws pertaining to sidewalk and crosswalk use. Riders shall listen for verbal instructions from their bus driver when crossing or being escorted across the roadway.

## Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior

**1st Report**—Conduct report mailed home. A parent is to go over report with student. Warning to student.

**2nd Report**—Conduct report mailed home. A phone call is placed to a parent. The student will receive a suspension from all school buses for three (3) school days.

**3rd Report**—Conduct report mailed home. A phone call is placed to a parent. Mandatory suspension from all school buses for one week, (5) days

**4th Report**—Conduct report mailed home. A phone call is placed to a parent. Removal from the bus for the remainder of the school year. Possible additional consequences to be determined by school site Principal.

*Note: Fighting is a mandatory removal from all school bus transportation. Length of suspension to be determined by the Transportation Supervisor and or Principal. School sites are mailed copies of all conduct reports issued to students.*

We have the same behavior expectations on our buses as we do for our school sites to ensure the safety of all students. (per Education Code 48900)

### TITLE 5 CAC SECTION 14203 STATE LAW READS:

PUPILS TRANSPORTED IN A SCHOOL BUS SHALL BE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF AND RESPONSIBLE TO THE DRIVER OF THE BUS. THE DRIVER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE PUPILS WHILE THEY ARE ON THE BUS OR BEING ESCORTED ACROSS A STREET, HIGHWAY, OR ROAD. CONTINUED MISCONDUCT 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.

# Exeter Unified School District



# Student/Parent Transportation Handbook

### **Transportation Objectives**

We welcome our students and parents back to another outstanding year at Exeter Unified School District. Our number one objective is to provide our students with a safe and enjoyable experience as they travel to and from school each day.

We appreciate the trust you have instilled in us as we transport your children on a daily basis. We do not take this trust lightly and are always looking to improve our safety policies and procedures. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your students for another amazing school year.

### **Working Together**

As we adapt to the ever changing landscape of Transportation, it is important that we continue to work together to provide safe, reliable, and cost effective services for our students.

### **Bus Safety Inspections**

Our school buses are inspected each year by the California Highway Patrol. Daily mileage records are tracked electronically and routine service and inspections are done based on miles driven.

### **Driver Training**

All drivers receive continuous training and are required by the State of California to have at least a minimum of 40 hours of classroom and behind-the-wheel training before certification. This training includes all laws and regulations pertaining to school buses (first aid, emergencies, and instruction in driving different types of buses). Each year, all drivers are required to attend in-service training for a minimum of 10 hours. These requirements are regulated by the California Highway Patrol.

### **Student Training**

In addition to this handbook, your child will receive training at their school sites in regards to emergency evacuations. All bus riders will participate in a drill for emergency bus evacuation annually.

### **Who is Eligible to Ride the Bus?**

Current administrative regulations provide that students living beyond the minimum transportation distances will be eligible for transportation as long as they reside within the Exeter Unified School District boundaries.

### **Extracurricular Trips**

Bus rules apply to all school sponsored events.

### **How Will My Child Know Which Bus To Ride?**

At the beginning of each school year all bus routes are published on our district website ([www.exeter.k12.ca.us](http://www.exeter.k12.ca.us)) Parents need to call the Transportation Dept. to sign their child up to ride a school bus. Our Dispatcher will give you the proper bus number and times for your child's bus stop.

At the school sites, staff will assist in boarding the children to make sure they are on the correct bus. If a student is in doubt about their bus stop or bus (once they are on the bus) they should tell the driver immediately.

### **What About Emergencies on the Bus?**

For student safety and route control, each bus is equipped with a two-way radio. The Transportation Department is in constant communication with each bus on its scheduled route.

### **Contact Information**

Exeter Unified School District's Transportation Dept. can be reached at (559)- 592-5573.

### **CHECK OUT OUR DISTRICT WEBSITE**

[www.exeter.k12.ca.us](http://www.exeter.k12.ca.us)

### **Inclement Weather/School Closures**

In case of adverse weather conditions, please tune your radio to your local FM radio stations 106.7, AM Stations 1270, 580, or 1450 - TV stations, Channel 24, Channel 47, Channel 26 or Channel 30. These stations will broadcast, as well as post, online notifications in the event of school closure or of different starting times. You can also refer to our district website.

### **What Do I Do if the Bus Doesn't Show Up on Time?**

School buses have to endure the same traffic conditions as commuters. A traffic problem, road closure, or discipline problem can throw your bus off schedule by 10—15 minutes. If after 15 minutes your bus still has not arrived, please call the Transportation Department at 592-5573. In the event we have a bus break down, another bus will be redirected as soon as possible.

### **What is a Student's Responsibility?**

It is important to understand that riding a school bus is a privilege and not a right of the student. This privilege can and will be revoked when serious misconduct occurs or when minor infractions occur repeatedly. Refusal of the District to provide transportation under these circumstances does not excuse parents from their responsibility of having their children in school each day.

### **Other Than Students, Who May Board A Bus?**

Only district employees, peace officers, and authorized personnel may board a school bus. Unauthorized persons boarding a school bus may be subject to legal prosecution per Ed Code, Section 39842.