



School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan)

STUDENT CONDUCT

Safety Rules – Waiting for/Departing Bus:

1. Students should be at their assigned stops **five minutes before** the bus is scheduled to depart. All students must be on their bus by departure time. When loading at school, the bus cannot wait for those who are tardy. Board and exit the bus at your designated stop each day.
2. Remain in the area designated as a bus loading zone and well off the roadway while waiting for a bus. Do not play in the street or on private property.
3. Do not throw anything in bus stop areas.
4. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before entering. Once the bus has come to a complete stop and the door is opened, enter in an orderly manner. Go to your seat immediately. (Traffic has stopped for student loading, so it should be done as quickly and safely as possible).
5. After leaving the bus, cross at a designated street crossing where possible. If a designated street crossing is not available, walk **10 feet in front of the bus** and wait until your driver ensures that it is safe and instructs you to cross. Do not cross behind the bus.

Safety Rules – On the Bus:

1. Follow all verbal instructions from the school bus driver.
2. Treat everyone (school bus driver, motoring public and fellow passengers) with courtesy and respect. Inappropriate conduct, use of objectionable language or abuse of others will not be tolerated.
3. Students may be assigned to a specific seat. Do not sit sideways or turn around in the seat, as serious injury may result in the event of a sudden stop. Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
4. Do not extend objects, hands or head out of the bus window. Serious injury could result.
5. Remain quiet and orderly. Shoving or pushing will not be tolerated. Do not distract the driver. Keep the aisle clear. Talk quietly while on the bus.
6. Belongings are to be kept in the backpack. Backpacks, etc. are to be placed on the student's lap or on the floor, not on the seat.
7. Musical instruments will only be transported when space is available and they can be transported safely. Drivers will make students aware of this. Large instruments which cannot be placed under the seat are not permitted. Smaller instruments may be placed under the seat.

or held on the lap in such a manner as not to interfere with another student's seating area or obstruct the foot area.

8. Items NOT allowed on the bus include: animals, scooters, balloons, laser pointers, weapons or explosive items, any tobacco products, matches, lighters, glass or any item that is a health or safety hazard. The driver has authority to secure all objects of concern.
9. Eating and/or drinking on buses are prohibited. This includes gum, cough drops, candy, soft drink bottles or cans.
10. Littering will not be tolerated – use the wastebasket provided.
11. Leave the seat in clean condition when disembarking.
12. Any willful damage to a bus will be charged to the student and/or the parent/guardian.

Additional Information:

Students must follow the directions of the bus driver. Cases of misbehavior on school buses or at bus stops shall be documented by the driver and if they persist, will be reported to the principal who will contact the parents. Continued misbehavior will result in the student's loss of the privilege to ride a school bus.

Violations of school bus rules will be handled on an individual basis between rider and driver. If a problem continues, parents will be contacted and progressive actions taken by school officials and/or the transportation department. Immediate loss of transportation may occur, depending on the severity of the violation. Remember, school bus transportation **is a privilege, not a right**. School bus transportation can be suspended for willful misconduct or endangering the overall safety of the school bus or its occupants.

Videotaping:

Videotaping may occur at random during the school year on a student's route. Students will not be notified when a recording device has been installed and is in use. Videotapes will be treated as protected student records under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act and the School Act.