

## **BUS SAFETY RULES**

### **1. Loading**

- 1.1. Be at the bus stop 5 minutes ahead of the posted schedule; the bus will not wait for those who are late.
- 1.2. If it is necessary to cross a highway to your bus stop, you must do so before the bus arrives at the stop. If the bus is already at the stop, do not cross the highway--return home.
- 1.3. Use your designated bus stop only.
- 1.4. Stay on the shoulder or sidewalk, well away from the pavement, while waiting for your bus. Do nothing that might hurt someone or damage someone's property.
- 1.5. Remain well back from the bus as it comes into the bus stop, and wait until the bus is completely stopped before stepping near it.
- 1.6. Do not run beside the bus while it is moving.
- 1.7. Board the bus in single file--do not push.
- 1.8. Take your seat right away, and stay there while the bus is moving.
- 1.9. Waiting time for scheduled bus routes is to be no more than 20 minutes. If the bus has not arrived by that time, you are to return home.

### **2. On the Bus**

- 2.1. Remember that the bus driver is in full charge at all times. Follow his or her instructions about staying seated and quiet and do nothing that might distract the driver's attention from the road.
- 2.2. You may be assigned a seat in which you must be seated at all times.
- 2.3. Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- 2.4. Never throw objects of any kind on the bus. Throwing objects at the bus driver is a major offence. Students suspended for this offence and their parents will be required to meet with the Superintendent.
- 2.5. The bus driver is authorized to confiscate from a student any object or implement he or she feels has the potential to inflict bodily injury or cause damage to the bus.
- 2.6. Smoking, eating, and drinking are not permitted on the bus. The following activities are also not permitted:
  - 2.6.1. spitting
  - 2.6.2. shouting
  - 2.6.3. obscene language
  - 2.6.4. damaging the bus
- 2.7. Never engage in fighting or horseplay on a bus.

- 2.8. Do not throw waste or any other item on the floor or out of bus windows.
  - 2.9. Do not at any time extend your arm(s) or head out of bus windows.
  - 2.10. Keep your lunch kit, backpack, and other things out of the aisle; they might trip someone. The aisle must be kept clear at all times. Students' belongings must not be placed on the floor, on the engine cover, or behind the driver's seat.
  - 2.11. The motor vehicle inspection division disallows the carrying of suitcases, hockey sticks, large musical instruments, skateboards, or skis on school buses. All items, including musical instruments, carried by students on buses must be small enough to be held on a student's lap without protruding into the aisle, onto the neighbouring seat, or above the student's head. The driver will determine if a musical instrument or other item is within the allowable size limit. No exceptions will be permitted.
  - 2.12. Any damage to the bus or to equipment must be reported at once to the driver.
  - 2.13. No student will be allowed to sit in the driver's seat or on the engine cover.
3. Unloading
- 3.1. Do not leave your seat until the bus has come to a complete stop.
  - 3.2. Do not push or shove.
  - 3.3. When departing the bus, immediately step onto the shoulder or sidewalk, away from the roadway.
  - 3.4. Remain on the shoulder of the road or the sidewalk until the bus leaves, and then disperse when safe to do so. Never leave the bus stop or attempt to cross the road before the bus has left the stop.
    - 3.4.1. Never assume that other vehicles will stop just because a bus has its red lights flashing. Some motorists ignore or don't see these signals, and some do not know that they are supposed to stop.
  - 3.5. If it is necessary to cross the road, look both ways and make sure there is no traffic. When it is safe to do so, cross the road.
4. General
- 4.1. Buses are to be used to transport students from home to school and from school to home. They are not to be used for other purposes, such as visiting friends, birthday parties, music lessons, medical appointments.
  - 4.2. Bus transportation is available for students to their place of childcare if the service is needed on a regular basis and if there is a vacant seat on the bus. This service is provided on a priority basis, consistent with District procedures.
  - 4.3. Please remember that bus transportation is a privilege which may be withdrawn if a student does not behave in an appropriate manner.

Reference: Sections 6, 7, 11, 17, 20, 22, 65, 79, 85 School Act  
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: December 18, 2001  
Revised: June 25, 2019, September 2022