



Rhodes School

for the Performing Arts

School Bus Regulations and Safety

Parents/ Guardians;

We're getting a head start on ensuring that your transportation department experience is stellar this upcoming school year! The Transportation Department partners with the community to provide safe, efficient transportation services. Accomplishing this mission requires the assistance and teamwork of the driver, students, parents and school personnel. To assist in ensuring that our families have the best ridership experience possible, please review the information below. Let us know if you have any questions.

Any scholar who is transported to and from school on a bus is expected to board and depart at his/her own bus stop. The Transportation Department determines which bus scholars will ride and what the designated stop will be. According to policy, bus drivers are not allowed at any time to drop a scholar off at a non-designated stop, and they are not allowed to drop off a scholar at a stop that is not his/her designated stop without approval.

BUS SAFETY

PLEASE DISCUSS THESE RULES THOROUGHLY WITH YOUR CHILD.

WHILE WAITING FOR THE BUS, SCHOLARS MUST:

- 1. Be at their designated stops FIVE minutes before the bus arrival time.**
- 2. Wait quietly for the bus to come.**
- 3. Avoid playing in the street.**
- 4. Avoid fighting or scuffling at the bus stop.**
- 5. Stand back from the road as the bus approaches.**
- 6. Exhibit safe behavior. When possible, please help monitor the safety & behavior of your child while he/she is waiting for the bus in the morning or arriving at the bus stop in the afternoon.**

BOARDING THE BUS

If you must cross the street, please follow the directions below:

- 1. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop and the driver opens the door,**
- 2. Check the traffic in both directions,**
- 3. Walk in front of the bus.**
- 4. If you drop something, tell the driver before picking it up.**
- 5. Form a single line and avoid crowding or pushing.**
- 6. Go directly to your assigned seat and remain seated while the bus is in motion.**

LEAVING THE BUS

- 1. Stay seated until the bus stops.**
- 2. Avoid pushing or shoving.**
- 3. Unload quickly and quietly from the back to the front.**
- 4. If you do not have to cross the street, walk immediately away from the bus.**
- 5. If you must cross the street, walk far enough in front of the bus to see the driver,**
- 6. Stop when you are even with the traffic on the side of the bus and carefully look both ways,**

7. Cross the street quickly, but avoid running.
8. Avoid stopping in front of the bus. If you drop something, tell the driver before picking it up.

THE BUS DRIVERS ARE ON A TIMED SCHEDULE. IF A PROBLEM OR NEED ARISES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL RATHER THAN STOPPING THE DRIVER.

BUS PASSENGER CONDUCT

SCHOLARS ON THE BUS MUST:

1. Remain in their assigned seats and avoid standing.
2. Talk softly and avoid yelling.
3. Keep their hands to themselves and avoid scuffling or fighting.
4. Keep their feet out of the aisle,
5. Avoid using profane or indecent language,
6. Avoid putting any part of their body out of the window,
7. Avoid distracting the driver with loud or disruptive behavior,
8. Avoid throwing articles in the bus or out of the window,
9. Avoid possessing any harmful items,
10. Avoid eating or drinking on the bus,
11. Avoid damaging the bus,
12. Only get on and off the bus at your designated stop.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND SCHOLARS

BUS DISCIPLINE- Video cameras have been installed in the buses. Infractions occurring on the school bus may result in suspension from the bus as well as school-based discipline.

First Offense: Verbal warning

Second Offense: A seat change, parents and school administrators will be contacted

Third Offense: 3-day bus suspension and/or campus disciplinary action

Fourth Offense: 5-day bus suspension and/or campus disciplinary action

Fifth Offense: 10-day bus suspension and/or campus disciplinary action

Any additional infractions may result in a possible bus suspension for the remainder of the school year.

The scholar must take bus discipline referrals home for a parent or guardian to sign, and it must be returned to the office on the next school day.

Principal/designee may invoke school disciplinary action, as well as bus disciplinary action, depending upon the circumstances. A bus suspension may be imposed on the occurrence of any offense depending on the nature of the offense. Parents will be notified concerning their children's inappropriate behavior and the resulting disciplinary action taken.

RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS IS A PRIVILEGE THAT CAN BE REVOKED AT ANY TIME FOR A SCHOLAR WHO DISPLAYS UNSAFE AND IMPROPER BEHAVIOR.

THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ESCALATE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS BASED ON THE INFRACTION.

Remember: Safety on the bus and at the bus stop is very important. Showing kindness to other scholars, to the driver, and following the instructions of the bus driver are basic requirements for continued transportation services.