

SCHOOL BUS AND SCHOOL VAN REGULATIONS

Each pupil transported on a school bus, van or automobile under contract to the Wallenpaupack Area School District shall comply with the following regulations:

1. The pupil shall at all times sit in the seat assigned by the school bus driver and shall not leave that seat while the bus is in motion.
2. Personal audio/video players or cell phones are permitted on buses. These devices may not interfere with other students or the driver.
3. The pupil shall not at any time use foul, loud or offensive language, nor be involved in rude or discourteous conduct.
4. The pupil shall promptly observe instructions given by the school bus driver.
5. The pupil shall wait for the school bus to come to a full stop before boarding the bus and shall then immediately proceed to his/her assigned seat.
6. The pupil shall not project any part of his/her body out of the school bus window nor throw any object from a school bus.
7. Throwing of any object within the school bus is prohibited.
8. The pupil shall not at any time place books, musical instruments or other obstructions in the school bus aisle, nor shall the pupil bring articles aboard the school bus that pose a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the driver or other students.
9. No pets or animals on the bus.
10. The pupil shall not interfere with nor tamper with any equipment on or off the school bus, or destroy any property on the school bus.
11. The pupil shall at all times observe accepted standards of health and cleanliness and shall assist the school bus driver in keeping the bus neat and orderly.
12. The pupil shall not at any time fight, push or engage in any form of horseplay.
13. The student is not at any time to light matches or use tobacco products or smoke on the bus. No alcoholic beverages or controlled substances will be permitted.
14. Water guns, pistols and balloons are prohibited.
15. Bus drivers are not obligated to wait for a student who habitually runs to the bus at the last minute. Students must be at the bus stop five minutes before pick-up time.
16. Students are not to eat or drink on the bus.
17. Students are expected to meet proper standards of behavior while at the bus stop. They are to wait in an orderly manner and refrain from running, or other such horseplay.

18. Late buses leave from the middle school loading area at 5:20 and the high school at 5:30 p.m. Only students participating in a school activity are eligible to ride a late bus.
19. Students who wish to temporarily ride a bus other than their assigned bus must request permission to do so. Written parent request, indicating the reason, should be given to the homeroom teacher one day in advance. The Principal or the Assistant Principal will review the request; permission may be denied based on bus capacity, urgency of reason, etc.
20. All transportation discipline problems should be referred to the Principal's office at the appropriate school.
21. Parents are not allowed on the school bus at any time.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

1. For minor infractions, the bus driver will do the following in sequence:
 - a. warn the student – driver documents the incident/date
 - b. change the student's seat, if possible – driver documents the incident/date
 - c. contact the parent/guardian – driver files an incident report
2. For major or repeated minor infractions, the bus driver will turn the offense in to the Discipline Committee/Principal immediately. In keeping with the school discipline code, each case will be handled accordingly by the Discipline committee/Principal. Action to be taken by the Discipline Committee/Principal will be to suspend a student's privilege of riding the bus, to notify the parent/guardian by phone and to mail a copy of the misconduct report to the student's parent/guardian. A copy of the misconduct report will be sent to the supervisor of transportation.
3. In the event of serious or repeated violation of bus regulations, the district may suspend the student's bus riding privilege for a period of 1 to 10 days or permanently remove the student's bus riding privilege without going through the previous steps. Also, inappropriate behavior or conduct on the bus can result not only in suspension of the bus riding privileges but in suspension from school as well.
4. During any suspension of bus privileges, it will be the parents' responsibility to transport the children to and from school. Student absence from school because of suspension of bus privileges is under Pennsylvania law considered illegal/unexcused.
5. If students are behaving inappropriately at the bus stop, parents and/or others should refer incidents to the appropriate police agency.