

## **STUDENT SAFETY RIDING BUSES**

### Bus Safety

The superintendent will develop written rules establishing the procedures for bus safety and emergency exit drills and for student conduct while riding on buses. The procedures for bus safety will include rules restricting bus access to students and those persons authorized by the superintendent and/or his or her designee(s) to ride the bus to and from any school activity.

The bus driver is responsible for the safety of his/her passengers, particularly for those who cross a roadway after leaving the bus. No bus driver will order or allow a student to disembark at other than his/her customary boarding or alighting place unless so authorized by the principal sending a bus pass to the driver. In order to assure the safety of all, the bus driver may hold students accountable for their conduct during the course of transportation and may recommend corrective action against a student. Bus drivers are expressly prohibited from using corporal punishment. Bus drivers are expressly prohibited from allowing anyone to board the bus who is not a student or person authorized to ride the bus by the superintendent and/or his or her designee(s).

### Emergencies

In the event of an accident or other emergency, the bus driver will follow the emergency procedures in accordance with the School Bus Driver Handbook (SBI). A copy of the emergency procedures will be located in each bus. To insure the success of such emergency procedures, each bus driver will conduct an “actual” emergency evacuation drill within the first six weeks of each school semester followed by at least one verbal review of the emergency exit procedures each semester. The district will conduct such other drills and procedures as may be necessary.

### Student Conduct on Buses

The superintendent will establish written rules of conduct for students riding school buses. Such rules will include, as a minimum, the requirements of WAC 392-145-035 and will be reviewed annually by the superintendent and revised if necessary. If the rules are substantially revised, they will be submitted to the board for approval.

At the beginning of each school year, a copy of the rules of conduct for students riding buses will be provided to each student who is scheduled to ride a school bus. The classroom teacher and/or bus driver will review the rules with the students at or near the beginning of each school year. A copy of the rules will be available upon request at the school and/or transportation office.

Cross References:	Board Policy 3100	Students Rights and Responsibilities
Legal References	RCW 28A.600.010	Government of schools, pupils, employees, rules and regulations for—Due process guarantee—Enforcement
	WAC 392-144	School Bus Driver Qualifications
	392-145-060	Loading and Unloading Procedures
	392-400-225	School district rules defining misconduct—Distribution of rules
	392-145	Transportation—Operation rules
	392-145-021	General operating requirements

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