

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Students utilizing school transportation shall conduct themselves in an orderly manner fitting to their age level and maturity with mutual respect and consideration for the rights of the school vehicle driver and the other passengers. Students who fail to behave in an orderly manner will be subject to disciplinary measures.

The driver shall have the authority to maintain order on the school vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of the driver to report misconduct to the building administrator.

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses used for transportation to and from school as well as for field trips, curricular or extracurricular events. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior and may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding. The video recordings are student records subject to school district confidentiality, board policy and administrative regulations.

After one warning for bad conduct, the building principal shall have the authority to suspend transportation privileges of the student or impose other appropriate discipline.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the building principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding student conduct and discipline when utilizing school district transportation.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 285; 321 (2003).

Cross Reference: 503 Student Discipline
506 Student Records

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01/20/2020

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION REGULATION

All persons riding in school district vehicles shall adhere to the following rules. The driver, sponsor or chaperones are to follow the school bus discipline procedure for student violations of this policy. Video cameras may be in operation on the school buses.

1. Bus riders shall be at the designated loading point before the bus arrival time.
2. Bus riders shall wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter.
3. Riders must not extend arms or heads out of the windows at any time.
4. Aisles must be kept clear at all times.
5. All bus riders shall load and unload through the right front door. The emergency door is for emergencies only.
6. A bus rider will depart from the bus at the designated point unless written permission to get off at a different location is given to the driver.
7. A rider may be assigned a seat by the driver.
8. Riders who damage seats or other equipment will reimburse the district for the cost of the repair or replacement.
9. Riders are not permitted to leave their seats while the vehicle is in motion.
10. Waste containers are provided on all buses for bus riders' use.
11. Permission to open windows must be obtained from the driver.
12. Classroom conduct is to be observed by students while riding the bus except for ordinary conversation.
13. The driver is in charge of the students and the vehicle, and the driver is to be obeyed promptly and cheerfully.
14. Students shall assist in looking after the safety and comfort of younger students.
15. A bus rider who must cross the roadway to board or depart from the bus shall pass in front of the bus (no closer than 10 feet), look in both directions and proceed to cross the road or highway only on signal from the driver.
16. Students shall not throw objects about the vehicle nor out through the windows.
17. Shooting paper wads, squirt guns or other material in the vehicle is not permitted.
18. Students shall keep feet off the seats.
19. Roughhousing in the vehicle is prohibited.
20. Students shall refrain from crowding or pushing.
21. The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, vaping devices, or look-alike substances (Board Policy 502.9) are prohibited in the vehicle.
22. The Good Conduct Policy (Board Policy 503.4) is in effect.

USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES REGULATION

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses as a means to monitor and maintain a safe environment for students and employees. The video cameras may be used on buses used for transportation to and from school, field trips, curricular events and extracurricular events. The contents of the video recordings may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding.

Student Records

The content of the video recordings is a student record subject to board policy and administrative regulations regarding confidential student records. Only those persons with a legitimate educational purpose may view the video recordings. In most instances, those individuals with a legitimate educational purpose may be the superintendent, building principal, transportation director, bus driver and special education staffing team. A video recording recorded during a school-sponsored trip, such as an athletic event, may also be accessible to the sponsor or coach of the activity. If the content of the recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary proceeding, it may be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Notice

The school district will annually provide the following notice to students and parents:

The Independence Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of video cameras on school district buses. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior to maintain order on the school buses to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents are hereby notified that the content of the video recordings may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the video recordings are confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Video recordings will only be retained if necessary for use in a student disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view video recordings of their child if the recordings are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

The following notice will also be placed on all school buses equipped with a video camera:

This bus is equipped with a video/audio monitoring system.

Review of Video Recordings

The school district shall review video recordings (choose one of the following):

- Option 1--when necessary as a result of an incident reported by a bus driver or student. The video recordings may be recirculated for erasure after 30 days.
- Option 2--at least (*weekly, monthly, etc.*). The video recordings may be recirculated for erasure after ___ days. Note: Video recordings should be kept for a minimum of two weeks.
- Option 3--randomly. The video recordings may be recirculated for erasure after ___ days.

USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES REGULATION

Viewing of video recordings is limited to the individuals having a legitimate educational purpose. A written log will be kept of those individuals viewing the video recordings stating the time, name of individual viewing and the date the recording was viewed.

Video Monitoring System

Video cameras will be rotated randomly on school district buses.

Determination of how video cameras will be used and which school buses will be equipped with video equipment will be made by the superintendent in consultation with the building principals and transportation director.

Student Conduct

Students are prohibited from tampering with the video cameras on the school buses. Students found in violation of this regulation shall be disciplined in accordance with the school district discipline policy (Board Policy 503.1) and Good Conduct Policy (Board Policy 503.4) and shall reimburse the school district for any repairs or replacement necessary as a result of the tampering.