

WCPSS Families:

In an effort to keep students safe on buses (includes contract vehicles) and to operate our buses as efficiently as possible, we want to make sure parents and students understand the current policy regarding school buses as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook. Students are expected to be considerate of the safety and well-being of themselves and fellow students at bus stops and on buses. Please obey the following:

- Show respect and obey the driver at all times. Do not distract the driver while he/she is driving.
- At the bus stop, stay out of the street and be respectful of the property around the bus stop. (Arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes before the bus arrives so that the bus does not have to wait.)
- Always walk when getting on and off the bus; no pushing or crowding.
- Talk quietly without yelling or using bad language.
- Stay in assigned seat and keep body parts and objects out of the aisles and in bus at all times.
- Keep the bus clean and pick up any dropped trash.
- Do not damage the bus or tamper with equipment or emergency door.
- Keep your hands to yourself. No fighting or horseplay.
- Keep food and drinks in book bag. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Ride only the bus to which you are assigned. Get on/off the bus only at your assigned stop.
- Parents, please supervise students at bus stops as appropriate based on age.
- Parents, address bus issues through your school office or WCPSS Transportation Department. (Parents may not board buses or discuss issues with the drivers during the route.)

Bus seats are assigned to use the buses to capacity while maintaining a comfortable ride for students. Therefore, students may only ride their assigned bus and may only board and exit buses at their assigned stop. Parents are expected to arrange private transportation if their children need to go somewhere else other than home after school. While we recognize that this may be an inconvenience and that there has been inconsistency in applying this long-standing policy, it is in your child's best interest that we work together for safe transportation to and from school.

Changes to a bus route or location of a bus stop should be addressed using the Transportation Service Request Form, which can be obtained from your child's school or on the transportation website, <http://www.wcpss.net/transportation/forms.html>. The Transportation Department will review requests and follow-up with parents.

If your child does not follow the above expectations, disciplinary action may be taken, up to and including removal from the bus. Even if your child will only ride the bus for field trips, please sign and return this form to your school. Upon request, a copy will be returned to you. Thank you for your support and cooperation!

David B. Newkirk
Assistant Principal

We have discussed the information above, and we agree to treat bus riding as a privilege and not a right.

Student's Name (please print)

Bus Route

Student's Signature

School & Homeroom Teacher

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date