

**Fayette County School Corporation
Department of Transportation**

827-0891



2017-2018

**STUDENT BUS
REGULATIONS**

The Fayette County School Corporation is committed to providing a safe and efficient student transportation system. This is possible with the teamwork of dedicated drivers who pledge to be courteous and caring to the students that they transport, and with parents and students being considerate and cooperative with the drivers and staff.

Because the behavior of school bus passengers can directly affect their safety and the safety of others, the following regulations apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including daily routes, field trips and other special trips. School personnel, parents or guardians, and students must know and follow these regulations. It is a privilege, not a right, to have transportation to and from school. This information will help assure a safe ride for all students transported.

In accordance with (*revised*) Indiana Code 20-27-10-2, "When school children are being transported on a school bus, they are under the supervision, direction, and control of the school bus driver and are subject to disciplinary measures by the bus driver and the governing body of the school corporation." Bus drivers shall keep order, maintain discipline among students, and see that all students are treated in a civil manner, and that no student is imposed upon or

mistreated, using every precaution for the safety of the students under their charge. Specific rules are to be followed:

1. Students are to use only the designated school bus stop and the assigned school bus. Any changes require approval of the Director of Transportation.
2. Students are to arrive at the bus stop at least five, but not more than ten minutes before the bus is due. Whenever possible, students shall walk to and from the school bus in groups. Students are to behave in an orderly manner at the bus stop.
3. Parents are responsible for the following:
 - a. the safety of their child while going to or from the bus stop and while waiting for the school bus
 - b. their child being at the stop at least five minutes prior to schedule pick-up time
 - c. damage by their child to school buses, personal property, or public property.
4. As the bus arrives, students are to form a line and stand at least six feet back from the curb. Students are not to move toward the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the door is open. Students must find a seat quickly, occupy the seat assigned to them by the driver, and remain seated at all times, facing forward. **STUDENTS MUST KEEP ARMS AND HEAD IN THE BUS AT ALL TIMES.**
5. Students will be permitted to carry material that can be held on their lap and needed for their academic needs. The following items will not be permitted on the school bus: large items that have sharp points / edges, band instruments too large to be held on a lap, glass items—including flower vases, balloons, live animals, skates, skateboards, and **dangerous** items (guns, knives [Indiana PL72-2006], fireworks or

any other flammables). No student will be denied a place to safely sit due to another student's belongings. If there is a question on the transportation of a particular item, the Director of Transportation should be contacted. At no time will any object be allowed to obstruct the aisle at the front or rear emergency door.

6. While riding the bus, shoes must be worn at all times - no cleats.
7. While riding the bus, students may talk quietly. Students are not to shout, yell, use profane language or gestures, or behave in a boisterous manner. Fighting, pushing, or shoving will not be tolerated. *Bullying by a student or groups of students against another student or staff member with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the other student through overt, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal, written, telephonic (including text messaging), electronic, or computer (email, web page, blog, etc.) communications transmitted, and/or physical acts committed, or any other similar behavior is prohibited. The term "bullying" may not be interpreted to impose any burden or sanction on, or include in the definition of the term, any of the activities or events listed in IC 20-33-8-0.5(b).* The driver cannot be distracted while the bus is in motion. Students are not to engage in unnecessary conversation with the driver.
8. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum.
9. Spitting or throwing anything inside or out of the school bus will not be tolerated.
10. When exiting the bus, students are to remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop. Students should follow the driver's instructions and hand signals. If students cross the roadway, they should cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus. Students must always be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and **NEVER CROSS BEHIND THE BUS.**

11. Students shall be aware of the "Danger Zones" surrounding the school bus. These zones include ten (10) feet around the school bus with the most dangerous zones being directly in front of the bus and by the passenger side rear tires.

12. For the safety of everyone aboard, the bus driver must devote full attention to the road. The safety of the whole group depends upon the proper, safe conduct of each individual student of any age.

Students who violate the bus regulations, the Fayette County School Student Code of Conduct, or their classroom and building rules will be subject to **consequences** from their driver, their building principal, and the Director of Transportation. These **consequences** include a bus suspension for a period of one (1) day to the remainder of the school year. Every effort will be made to ensure that the punishment for the rule violation is consistent with the misbehavior of the student.

All students are subject to the rules and guidelines specified in the Fayette County School Corporation Student Code of Conduct.

