

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES GETTING TO AND FROM THE BUS STOP & BEING SAFE ON THE BUS

Students have a right to expect Transportation services which are...

- physically and emotionally safe,
- provided on busses which are safe and clean,
- fulfilled by drivers who treat everyone professionally, and who operate the bus safely and efficiently.

Student Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following;

1. The driver has absolute responsibility for the bus and the conduct of those on it, except when a teacher, coach or assistant is present on the bus. Then the teacher, coach or assistant shall be responsible for the student conduct.
2. Students who must cross the highway in order to board the school vehicle shall cross with the red flashing lights and the Stop arm are extended when the school bus has come to a full stop and all traffic has come to a full stop. (Exception; students will never be allowed to cross a dual-lane highway.)
3. Students who must cross the road after getting off the school vehicle shall pass ten long steps in front of the bus. The student must also look for traffic in both directions before crossing the road. During drop off the school vehicle must remain stopped with the red warning lights operating until all students are on the other side of the road. Students must cross the street in front of the bus while the bus is present. Students may not walk behind the bus and then attempt to cross the street.
4. Students may not have earphones in their ears or use a cell phone while boarding or unloading. They must give their full attention to being a safe pedestrian.
5. Students are never to walk along either side of a bus to or from the rear of the bus. They are to enter and exit in a direct line to the service door.
6. Before approaching the bus or getting off the bus, be sure all of your belongings are in your book bag so you don't drop anything.
7. Students are never to approach a bus because they have dropped something near it or underneath of it. If you drop something while getting on or off the bus, tell your bus driver. Wait until your bus driver tells you it is safe to pick it up.
8. Students must be aware of their surroundings at all times so they can behave safely as pedestrians. Especially when boarding or disembarking students should not be using electronic devices, nor should they have any earpieces/headphones on over their ears.
9. Students must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
10. Students are to wait in a single file line ten long steps away from the roadway until the bus comes to a complete stop. Students shall not be permitted to stand in roadways, highways or streets to direct traffic. No student shall escort another student

across a roadway, highway or street. Students should not move toward the bus until the bus has come to a complete stop and the door is open.

11. No one should move towards a bus until it has come to a complete stop. Never run.
12. Students should be at the school vehicle stop 5 minutes prior to the typical bus arrival time and be ready to board the vehicle with the least possible delay.
13. Students must enter and exit the school vehicle through the front door only. The rear door is for emergencies only.
14. Students are to remain seated while the vehicle is in motion. "Nose and toes" towards the front windshield at all times. If it is necessary to have standees, they shall hold onto the backs of the seats while the vehicle is in motion.
15. Pupils must not extend arms or heads out of the school vehicle windows at any time.
16. Students shall never stand in the step well or in front of the white line in the aisle while the vehicle is in motion.
17. Students shall keep the aisles clear of lunch boxes, musical instruments, books, etc.
18. Except for ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is in order. Misbehavior of any kind will not be tolerated.
19. Discarding objects from the school vehicle is forbidden by state law. (Persons found guilty of littering the highway are subject to a fine.)
20. Students shall assist the driver in keeping the school vehicle clean by not throwing any trash on the seats or floor.
21. Eating or drinking shall not be permitted on the school vehicle.
22. Students shall not spray anything on the bus.
23. Inflated balloons are not allowed on the bus.
24. Students must not damage or deface any part of the bus. Students/guardians must repay the cost of repairing or replacing any damaged equipment.
25. Students shall be assigned to a definite seat on the school vehicle and shall be allowed to change to another seat only with the permission of the driver.
26. Each student shall ride the school vehicle to which he or she has been assigned. In the case of an emergency the principal may grant permission to ride another school vehicle other than the one to which he or she has been assigned. (Visiting fellow students, attending group meetings, etc. are not to be considered as emergencies.) Special permission can be granted by the principal for certain high school students participating in special school activities.
27. Students are expected to obey all the procedures and regulations governing student conduct in Calvert County. An exception may be indicated for a child with disabilities under individual with disabilities educational act (IDEA).
28. Drivers may suspend students from riding on the school vehicle for one day in cases of serious misconduct, but must notify both the principal and the guardian prior to implementing the one day suspension.

Free school transportation is a privilege. Those who insist on violating the above rules and regulations shall be denied the privilege of riding a school vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of the parents to provide safe transportation to and from school for children who have been denied the privilege of riding a school vehicle. The compulsory school attendance law remains in effect. Certain students with disabilities may be given additional considerations per the Individual with Disabilities Educational Act (IDEA).