

## MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### Student Safety and Conduct on School Buses

#### Bus Safety

The safety of students who ride school buses is a shared concern of the Board, administration, staff, parents, and students.

The superintendent shall develop written rules establishing the procedures for bus safety and emergency exit drills.

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 shall order or allow a student to disembark at other than his/her customary boarding or alighting place unless so authorized by the principal or designee. 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.

#### Student Conduct on Buses

The Superintendent shall establish written rules of conduct for students riding school buses. Such rules shall include as a minimum the requirements of WAC 392-145-035 and shall be reviewed with other policies related to student conduct and revised if necessary.

At the beginning of each school year, a copy of the rules of conduct for students riding buses shall be provided to each student as a part of the Students' Rights and Responsibilities packet. A copy of the rules shall be available upon request at the District office.

#### Emergencies

In the event of an accident or other emergency, the bus driver shall follow the emergency procedures in accordance with the School Bus Driver Handbook (SPI). A copy of the emergency procedures shall be located in each bus. To ensure the success of such emergency procedures, each bus driver shall conduct an emergency evacuation drill within the first six weeks of each school semester. The District shall conduct such other drills and procedures as may be necessary.

#### Bus Maintenance

Buses used in the District's transportation program shall be in safe and legal operating condition. All buses shall be inspected by the Washington State Patrol once each year. Any bus receiving a major repair shall be inspected in the same manner as a new bus, with emphasis on mechanical safety. No bus shall be operated with regrooved, recapped, or retreaded tires on the front wheels. A bus driver shall inspect his/her bus in the manner prescribed in the School Bus Driver Handbook (SPI).

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**Cross References:**

3241 - Classroom Management and Student Discipline  
6510 - Safety

**Legal References:**

RCW 28A.600.010 Enforcement of rules of conduct – Due process guarantees – Computation of days for short-term and long term suspensions  
WAC 392-144 School Bus Driver Qualifications  
WAC 392-400-225 School district rules defining misconduct--Distribution of rules  
WAC 392-145 Transportation--Operation rules  
WAC 392-145-021 General operating requirements  
WAC 392-145-016 Rules for students riding school buses

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