

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: STUDENT CONDUCT

ON SCHOOL VEHICLES

ADOPTED: December 9, 1998

REVISED: May 16, 2001

# ***SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT***

## 810.2 STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL VEHICLES

1. Authority

Appropriate conduct is essential for the health and safety of students transported on school district vehicles. Student conduct while waiting for, riding on, or departing from school vehicles is within the authority of the Board, Superintendent, and the building principal and his/her staff.

2. Guidelines

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A student whose misconduct violates this policy while waiting for, riding on, or departing from school vehicles shall be subject to loss of riding privileges. The student may also be subject to disciplinary measures including suspension and expulsion from school pursuant to related student discipline policies.

Misconduct shall include any form of unacceptable behavior including, but not limited to: pushing; hitting; shouting; tripping; littering; profane language; obscene gestures; disrespect; harassment; eating; drinking; refusing to comply with the driver's direction or to provide appropriate identify; throwing objects in or from vehicles; fighting; smoking; damaging the vehicle; injuring persons or property; opening exit doors or engaging in any conduct hazardous to the driver, passengers, or people outside of the school vehicle.

The following guidelines are established for reporting and investigating violations:

- 1) The driver will complete a misconduct report describing the misconduct of the student or students involved and immediately submit a copy to his/her supervisor.
- 2) The driver shall also submit a copy of the misconduct report to the building principal no later than the morning following the incident.
- 3) The principal shall review the misconduct report and investigate the incident to determine what action, if any, is appropriate against the student or students involved. If necessary, the principal will meet with the parents, students, driver, and transportation supervisor. Video tapes, if available, may be used by the principal in the investigation.

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- 4) The principal shall provide written notice of his/her action to the student, student's parents, driver, and transportation department.
- 5) Action taken by the principal may include a written warning, suspension of riding privileges, or suspension or expulsion from school pursuant to related student discipline policies in accordance with the following guidelines:
  - a. The principal in determining whether to issue a warning or suspend a student's riding privileges shall consider the nature and seriousness of the student's misconduct, and prior misconduct of the student under this policy.
  - b. The principal may suspend a student's riding privileges for a period of one (1) to ten (10) days. Additional suspension of riding privileges for a period of up to thirty (30) days may be imposed with the written consent of the Superintendent.
  - c. Special education students may be disciplined like any other student but there are a few exceptions: Special education students cannot be suspended for more than ten consecutive days. Special education students cannot be suspended for more than fifteen days total during a school year. A mentally retarded student cannot be suspended for even one day. Any special education student, regardless of disability, can be suspended from the bus indefinitely if the parents agree to transport their child to school. Only when a student cannot get to school in any other way does exclusion from the bus constitute a suspension.
  - d. Except in extreme cases, students who are transported to school will be permitted return transportation the day prior to the beginning of any suspension of riding privileges. The parents shall be specifically notified of their obligation to provide transportation for their child to and from school, or school-related activities, during the period of suspension of riding privileges.