



## Weakley County Schools Transportation Student Guidelines for Bus Travel

Parents/Guardians,

Please read the following guidelines with your child and make sure they fully understand what is expected of them on the school bus. After doing this, I ask that you and your child sign this form and return it to their school office. Failure to comply with this request will result in your child not being allowed to ride the bus.

Tim Barker,  
Transportation Supervisor  
Weakley County Schools

### Student Guidelines for Riding a School Bus:

1. Profanity is not allowed on the bus at any time for any reason.
2. Get seated as quickly as possible in your assigned seat. Sit on your bottom facing the front at all times. Do not have your legs in the aisle or be turned around looking over the back of seat.
3. Remain seated at all times. Wait until the bus stops before going to the front to exit. Exit as quickly as possible.
4. Keep your hands to yourself. Absolutely no horseplay or bullying will be tolerated.
5. Do not get things out of your backpack. Pencils, paper, toys, etc. can wait until you get to school or get home.
6. No eating or drinking on the bus. This rule is a state law! Buses can be taken off line due to food and candy being on the floor (Food and drinks attract insects). Your drivers should not have to continue to scrape food and candy off the floor. We will allow you to bring bottled water.
7. Keep the noise level to a minimum. You may talk to the person riding beside you, but do not yell at someone sitting far away from you. Screams and loud noises are very distracting to the driver.
8. Do not put anything out of the window. Keep your head and arms in the bus and do not throw anything out of a window.
9. If you need to talk to the bus driver for a non-emergency, try to wait until the bus has stopped. If it is a serious matter, then get the attention of the bus driver as quickly as you can.
10. Keep trash picked up and help the driver keep a clean bus. Take ownership of the bus you ride; it is your bus. If you see trash on the floor, pick it up on your way off and throw it away. Your driver will appreciate this very much.
11. Follow the instructions of the driver at all times. The bus driver is in charge of the bus and they will not be able to drive with any distractions that take their attention off the roadway.
12. Do not write on or tear the seat covers. Replacement is costly and time consuming.
13. Failure to follow these rules by making poor choices will result in the loss of the privilege to ride the bus.

### School Transportation Safe Practices

1. Please make sure that your child is ready and at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before bus arrival time.

2. Parents must be present and visible at the bus stop for children under the age of 10. We may not see you in a vehicle or if you are not in the stop area so please be at the bus stop. Bus drivers are instructed not to drop a student under the age of 10 at a home if they are unable to see a parent at the bus stop. Should this occur the driver will radio the school and return the child to the school. It will then become the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pickup the child from school. After a second occurrence bus transportation will be suspended for two weeks. Bus drivers will not release student along the route once they have passed the appointed stop. You are urged not to approach the bus at another stop for the purpose of placing students on bus who missed their stop. Late arrivals will not be accepted by the bus driver along the route.
3. No child will be allowed to exit the bus at a stop that is not approved by the school and transportation team. Every student must be listed as a bus rider in our computer system to ride a bus.
4. Students will be allowed two permanent destination options. We are unable to transport children to different locations during the week (ex. go home with a friend/relative, drop off at a neighbor's house, etc.). Any requests for a change must be a permanent change that is presented in writing to the school for transportation department approval. Parents must submit the request at least 24 hours before the desired change. We are unable to accommodate same day/emergency changes. Parents must make necessary arrangements other than bus transport for such instances.
5. Please communicate to the school and the bus driver if your child will not be riding for three or more days. The bus will not return after three days unless we hear from someone.
6. Please help us with bus behavior issues. The first behavior form is usually a warning and that just means we need your help correcting the behavior issue before they receive bus suspension. Students must follow the bus driver's instructions at all times.
7. Help with our schedule. It is best that we keep to our schedule so the next person is not late or left standing for a long period of time.
8. We need everyone's help to keep our children safe on their bus routes and to keep our buses running efficiently. Please encourage good choices while riding the bus. Your help will be much appreciated!

## Consequences

1<sup>st</sup> write-up: Warning and Write-offs

2<sup>nd</sup> write-up: 3 days removed from bus

3<sup>rd</sup> write-up: 5 days removed from bus

4<sup>th</sup> write-up: 20 days removed from bus

5<sup>th</sup> write-up: Remove from bus remainder of year

*Order of consequences can be skipped due to the severity of the choice made.*

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_