

Ceres Unified School District

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

The State Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, Section 14263, states: "Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road."

The Ceres Unified School District Governing Board has adopted a transportation policy which in part provides for the maximum safety, not only from home to school and activity trips, but also to and from the bus stop. To assist your student to understand his/her responsibilities as a bus rider of the School District, the following rules of conduct must be followed:

1. Practice safe walking habits as directed by the care provider, such as using sidewalks. Do not walk - run – play using traffic lanes.
2. Trespassing or damaging private property could result in the loss of bus riding privileges.
3. The State Law does not permit the care provider (parents/sitters or other) to escort any students across the roadway with the bus present, therefore the care provider must wait on the same side of the roadway as the bus stop.
4. Student must be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before bus should arrive.
5. When waiting for the bus, stand on the sidewalk/edge of road as directed by bus operator.
6. When exiting the bus, all K-8 students must wait to be escorted by the bus driver across any road.
7. When exiting the bus, 9-12 students may cross the road without an escort as long as the red lights on the bus are flashing.

The following list of unacceptable conduct will be of value to you in establishing guidelines for your student's behavior. This list, though incomplete, is an indication of conduct that will **not be tolerated**:

1. Using other than the student's designated stop.
2. Any part of the body or any object out of the bus window
3. Any movement out of seats while bus is moving; legs, feet, or other objects obstructing the aisle; or facing to the rear of the bus.
4. Improper bus stop procedures (not lining up, rock throwing, playing in the street, property damage at bus stop, etc.).
5. Throwing objects in, out of, or at the bus.
6. Littering on the bus or at the bus stop.
7. Bringing aboard items of injurious or objectionable nature (animals, reptiles, insects, glass containers, tape recorders, radios, etc.)
8. Eating or drinking on the bus.
9. Disrespect and/or failure to obey the bus operator.
10. Tampering with the radio or bus controls.
11. Failure to remain quiet at all railroad crossings.
12. Creating a danger to self or others.
13. Abusive body contact (slapping, hitting, poking, shoving, pulling hair, etc.) in a bus or when loading or unloading.
14. Using profane language or obscene gestures.
15. Creating noise distracting to the bus operator (screaming, whistling, shouting, etc.).
16. Lighting of matches, possession of tobacco, alcohol, or questionable substances on the bus.
17. Failure to properly identify self to bus operator.
18. Any type of damage or defacing of the bus.
19. Standing or walking within twelve (12) feet of the bus except when loading or unloading. Students should never cross the road behind the bus.
20. Creating a hostile educational environment as defined in C.U.S.D. conduct code (E.C. 48900.4).

THERE WILL BE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FOR THREATENING OR ACTUAL BODILY HARM

Serious incidents of unauthorized or unsafe actions MAY result in immediate removal from bus.

When a bus rider is guilty of misconduct, he/she will be reported to the Director of Transportation and the School Principal. Listed below are Citations and the Action Taken for each.

CERES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT 556-1595 DISCIPLINARY REPORT	Name		School	Date
	Phone Number	Teacher (Elem.)	Driver	Route # a.m. p.m.

STUDENT DID NOT:

- Follow instructions first time given
- Use appropriate language (threats/cursing/slurs)
- Keep hands, feet, objects to self
- Respect property of others
- Follow safe conduct rules
- Follow bus stop procedures
- Other _____

ACTION TAKEN:

- Verbal warning
- Moved to assigned seat
- Gave citation
- Request immediate removal from bus

INCIDENTS THAT ARE OF SERIOUS NATURE WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM ALL BUSES

SPECIFIC DETAILS

1st Citation	K-12	Warning	4th Citation	K-6	Twenty Days Off Bus
2nd Citation	K-6	3 Days Off Bus	5th Citation	K-6	Sixty Days Off Bus
	7-12	Five Days Off Bus		7-12	180 Days Off Bus
3rd Citation	K-6	Ten Days Off Bus	Severe Behavior		
	7-12	Twenty Days Off Bus	Citation	K-12	Immediate Removal
					Until further Notice*

*Requires conference with Director of Transportation

BUS RIDING IS A PRIVILEGE WHICH MAY BE DENIED. PARENTS ARE URGED TO DISCUSS DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT FURTHER OCCURRENCE. STUDENTS ARE NOT SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL. PARENTS MUST ASSURE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WHEN STUDENTS ARE REMOVED FROM THE BUS.

For questions or concerns, please call the transportation office at 556-1595 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.	_____ Director of Transportation	OFFICE USE ONLY Citation Number _____
		Mailed on _____ Phone call on _____

White Copy - Student Yellow Copy - School Pink Copy - School Card - Transportation

DRIVER'S COMMENTS

- Note:
- Days off are school days. Vacation or Weekend days do not count.
 - Students who receive a 6th citation in a school year will receive double the 5th citation penalty.
 - Students will start each year with no citations; however, they must finish days off penalties from the previous year. Extenuating circumstances will be handled by using Severe Citations.

NOTE: BUS RIDING IS A PRIVILEGE WHICH MAY BE REVOKED. PARENTS/GUARDIAN ARE URGED TO DISCUSS DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT FURTHER OCCURRENCE.

STUDENTS REMOVED FROM THE BUS MUST CONTINUE TO ATTEND SCHOOL. IT IS THE PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE STUDENT ATTENDS SCHOOL.

A VIDEO CAMERA MAY BE IN USE ABOARD THE BUS FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR STUDENT.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR NEED SPECIFIC BUS STOP INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT THE
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT AT (209) 556-1595**