

## 218.3-AR STUDENT BUS CONDUCT

Guidelines

Pupils having the privilege of riding a school bus must conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner to and from school. The bus driver is legally responsible for the safe transportation of pupils. Bus conduct reports will be written by the bus drivers and submitted to the principal on a daily basis. Bus conduct reports should include as much information as possible for the principal to take effective disciplinary action. The principal, at his/her discretion, will handle each conduct report in accordance with the school's disciplinary policy.

- I. Pupils may be disciplined or deprived of transportation for the infraction of any of the following regulations:
  - A. Pupils shall line up to get on the bus, avoid pushing and shoving, and take seats on the bus immediately upon boarding following the seating procedures.
  - B. Pupils shall not tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.
  - C. Pupils shall observe orderly conduct on the bus and refrain from the use of profane and indecent language.
  - D. Pupils shall not talk with the bus driver while the bus is in motion.
  - E. Pupils shall not board/disembark their bus at other than their assigned stops and shall only ride their regularly assigned school bus.
  - F. Pupils shall not play games on the street or highway while waiting for the school bus, nor shall they trespass or cause damage to any property in the vicinity of the bus stop.
  - G. Pupils shall be on time for the school bus.
  - H. Pupils shall not bring pets to school on the bus.
  - I. Pupils shall not eat or drink on the school bus.
  - J. Pupils shall cooperate with and obey the school bus driver at all times.
  - K. Pupils shall not deposit any paper or trash on the seats or anywhere else on the bus.
  - L. Pupils shall not make terroristic threats, speak inappropriately, gesture, stare down or use facial/body expressions to convey defiance or dissatisfaction with the bus driver or aide.
  - M. Pupils shall adhere to the Muhlenberg School District Policy 227 on Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia.
  - N. Pupils shall adhere to the Muhlenberg School District Policy 2.18.1 on Weapons.
  - O. Pupils shall adhere to the Muhlenberg School District Policy 222 on Tobacco Use.
  - P. Students shall adhere to the Muhlenberg School District Policy 218 pertaining to Student Discipline.
  - Q. Students shall adhere to Muhlenberg School District Policy 237 pertaining to Electronic Devices.

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## II. Bus Discipline Guidelines – Elementary &amp; Intermediate

Corrective actions to be taken as a result of student misbehavior outlined in Section I, School Bus Regulations, as follows:

- A. First offense – warning except for serious incidents.
- B. Second offense – one day bus suspension.
- C. Third offense – one week bus suspension.
- D. Fourth offense – bus suspension for a period not less than one week for up to one year.

## III. Bus Discipline Guidelines – Middle School &amp; High School

Recommended disciplinary procedures resulting from student’s misbehavior as defined:

- A. Level I – Minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly bus procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the bus. Reference behavioral examples “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, “H”, “K”, & “L” in section 1 of the *Pennsylvania School Bus Regulations*: Bus driver will instruct student to behave. Student’s failure to comply will result in a written conduct report from the bus driver to the school’s principal or vice-principal.

Level I offenses will receive the following disciplinary action:

1. First offense – warning except for serious incidents.
2. Second offense – one day bus suspension.
3. Third offense – one week bus suspension.
4. Fourth offense – bus suspension for a period not less than one week for up to one year.

- B. Level II – Misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the orderly climate of the bus which includes the continuation of unmodified Level I actions, smoking, and fighting. Reference behavioral example “F” in section 1 of the *Pennsylvania School Bus Regulations*: Bus driver will safely stop the bus and instruct student(s) to desist. Should student(s) fail to comply, driver calls the transportation office for further instruction or the local police. A written conduct report is submitted from the bus driver to the school’s principal or vice-principal.

Level II offenses depending on severity will receive the following disciplinary action:

1. First offense – one day bus suspension.
2. Second offense – one week bus suspension.
3. Third offense – bus suspension for a period not less than one week for up to one year.

- C. Level III – Acts so serious that safety of all on board the bus cannot be jeopardized by the presence of the student perpetrator which includes bus sabotage, alcohol/drugs, and weapons.

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Reference behavioral examples “G”, “M”, “N” in section 1 of the *Pennsylvania School Bus Regulations*: Bus driver will safely stop the bus and call the local police and the transportation office. A written conduct report is submitted from the bus driver to the school’s principal or vice-principal.

Level III offenses will receive the following disciplinary action:

Withdrawal of bus privileges.

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