



Buses – Student Conduct

The School Board and staff members are very concerned about safety as we transport pupils. Cooperation from parents and students is requested as we attempt to keep the buses safe for all concerned.

Students using district transportation should understand that they are under the jurisdiction and code of conduct/disciplinary rules of the school from the time they board the bus until they are deposited at the stop nearest their home.

In accordance with its policies EEACA and EEACA-R, the Wilton School Board is notifying all students that they are subject to being audio-videotaped on the school bus at any time. A sign will be conspicuously placed on the bus notifying riders that their conversations and /or actions may be recorded on tape. This applies to all students transported to and from Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Middle School and High School on Wilton School District buses. (as approved by the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board)

I. General Rules

- A. The school bus is an extension of the school, and all school rules and regulations which pertain to student conduct, behavior or discipline in the schools are applicable to student conduct on a school bus. Accordingly, in addition to specific rules of conduct and discipline provided below, the ordinary school and District rules and regulations regarding student behavior/conduct/discipline, will simultaneously apply to all students using District transportation, and may result in separate disciplinary actions as permitted under applicable statutes, School Board Policy, and any school based or District rules or procedures.
- B. The school bus driver is in complete charge of the school bus and the pupils, and shall have the same authority in maintaining discipline as a teacher in the classroom.

II. Student Conduct

- A. Students will stay on curb or off pavement at side of road until bus stops, door is open and lights are flashing.
- B. Students will board bus in single file and fill seats as assigned by the driver.
- C. Students will stay in their seats at all times, with feet on the floor; they will not change seats without permission of the driver.
- D. Students will not lower windows without permission of the driver. Hands and heads must never be extended from open windows.
- E. No smoking at all on any bus, including charter trips.
- F. No profane language, obscene gestures, excessive noise, fighting, wrestling, or acts of physical aggression will be tolerated.
- G. Once a student has boarded the bus, he/she may not get off except at his/her destination. (Exemption will be made only with a note from the principal.)
- H. Students may ride only the bus to which they are assigned. (Exemption will be made only with a note from a principal.)
- I. Students must be seated and are not permitted to change seats when the bus is in motion or to annoy other riders on the bus.

- J. Stay in your seat until you reach your designated stop and the bus has stopped. Emergency doors are for emergencies only.
- K. Take a seat promptly when getting on the bus.
- L. The law allows and you are expected to sit three passengers to a seat.
- M. No eating or drinking on the bus.
- N. No marring or defacing the bus.
- O. Students will be held responsible for any and all damage to the bus perpetrated by them.
- P. No throwing things in the bus, at the bus, or out the window.
- Q. Always cross the street in front of the bus.
- R. You are due at your stop before the bus is due. The driver will not wait for you.
- S. Anything that would create a safety hazard for the passengers or vehicle will not be permitted.
- T. Only authorized riders will be permitted on the buses.

III. Disciplinary Action

- A. Any infraction of the rules of student conduct should be brought to the attention of the School Administration.
- B. Depending on the nature of the infraction, there may be circumstances (for example infractions involving student safety, alcohol, controlled substances, as defined or scheduled in RSA 318-B) which may result in the immediate suspension from school transportation/bus services – such disciplinary action will be at the discretion of the appropriate school administrator or bus contractor, as permitted under RSA 189:9-a. In such circumstance, the Superintendent, and all school principals are authorized to suspend the rights of pupils from riding in a school bus when said pupils fail to conform to the reasonable rules and regulation of the District. Any suspension from school bus services to continue beyond twenty days must be approved by the School Board. Such suspension shall not begin until the next school day following the day notification of suspension is sent to the pupil's parent or legal guardian.
- C. If a student has been denied the right to ride a school bus for disciplinary reasons, the parent or guardian of the pupil has a right of appeal within ten days of suspension to the authority who ordered the suspension.
- D. Until the appeal is heard or the suspension of the student's right to ride the school bus is upheld, it shall be the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide transportation.
- E. A student may appeal any decision regarding busing services to the New Hampshire Department of Education.