

## BUS INFORMATION

### *Conduct*

Each student code of conduct shall include the following provisions prescribing and governing student conduct and safety rules on all school buses:



- Students shall be prohibited from acts of physical violence as defined by Code Section 20-2-751.6, bullying as defined by subsection (a) of Code Section 20-2-751.4, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior. If a student is found to have engaged in physical acts of violence as defined by Code Section 20-2-751.6, the student shall be subject to the penalties set forth in that Code section.
- Students shall be prohibited from using any electronic devices while boarding or exiting the school bus, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, audible radios, tape or compact disc players without headphones; or any other electronic device in a manner that might interfere with a student's ability to hear the driver's directions; while riding the bus students will be allowed to use cell phones with one earbud in. The use of cell phones on the bus is a privilege that can be taken away.
- Students shall be prohibited from using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.
- A meeting of the parent or guardian of the student and appropriate school district officials must be held to form a school bus behavior contract whenever: a student is found to have engaged in bullying; or a student is found to have engaged in physical assault or battery of another person on the school bus.

Misbehavior on the school bus distracts the driver and is a very serious hazard to the safe operation of the bus that jeopardizes all riders. To protect the safety and well-being of all riders, students must follow the Rules of Conduct. Proper bus conduct is a joint effort of the bus drivers, students, parents, teachers, and administrators. To ensure a safe and pleasant ride for all students, the following bus discipline procedures will be applied by bus drivers, transportation supervisor and school administrators:

### ***ALL students will have ASSIGNED SEATS***

|                                 |                                                                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>1<sup>st</sup> Referral:</i> | BUS WARNING: Parent/Student Notification                               |
| <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Referral:</i> | BUS PROBATION: Parent/Student Conference                               |
| <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Referral:</i> | BUS SUSPENSION for a minimum of 1-3 days. Parent/Student Notification  |
| <i>4<sup>th</sup> Referral:</i> | BUS SUSPENSION for a minimum of 4-6 days. Parent/Student Notification  |
| <i>5<sup>th</sup> Referral:</i> | BUS SUSPENSION for a minimum of 7-10 days. Parent/Student Notification |

Additional referrals may result in being suspended off the bus for the remainder of the semester or year.

***Serious offenses may result in IMMEDIATE Suspension from the bus regardless of the number of referrals.***

***McIntosh County School buses are equipped with video cameras.***

Due to federal regulations, **only** school administrators, district personnel, and/or school resource deputies will view camera footage, as needed.

Students who vandalize school buses by damaging seats, or in any other way deface or damage the bus, shall be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension from riding the bus, suspension from school, and payment for repair of the damages. Consequences will be based upon the nature and severity of the damage. The Transportation Director and Principal shall exercise their discretion in determining the appropriate consequence.

**1. Minor damage to a seat cover:**

One (1) day out of school suspension to be waived upon payment of \$15.00 for repair of the seat and one (1) additional day of suspension from riding the bus.

**2. Damage requiring replacement of the seat cover:**

Three (3) days out of school suspension to be waived upon payment of \$35.00 for replacement of the seat cover and three (3) additional days of suspension from riding the bus.

**3. Damage requiring total seat replacement:**

Five (5) days out of school suspension to be waived upon payment of \$55.00 to replace the seat and five (5) additional days' suspension from riding the bus.

**4. Other acts of vandalism:**

Punishment, using the guidelines set forth above, at the discretion of Transportation/Principal, depending upon the severity of the damage and the cost of repairs.

**Additional Information**

The bus shop is open weekdays from 6:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Please call 437-8841 should you need transportation information regarding:

- Your child's bus route or schedule
- A service problem or concern
- An incident on the bus that has not been satisfactorily resolved
- Emergencies

If no one answers, please call the Board of Education office at 437-6645, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM and ask for the Transportation Department.

**BUS DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES**

School bus drivers will carry out a discipline plan approved and suggested by the system.

Referrals that come in from bus driver will be dealt with by an administrator and may result in suspension off the bus. Severe misbehavior may result in suspension from school.

[For more information review Board Policy JCDA: Student Code of Conduct](#)