

Transportation Department
Bus Discipline Plan

Purpose: To provide for the safe and orderly transportation of students to and from school and special events.

The following rules and regulations are promulgated with the health, safety and welfare of all students and employees in mind. The Saucon Valley School District will strictly enforce these rules and regulations and requests the cooperation of students and parents in ensuring that student conduct on the bus and at the bus stop is of such a nature so as to assist the District in this regard, in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code 24PS SEC 5-510.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Only articles that may be held on the student's lap or placed under the occupant's seat may be transported on a school bus or van. No article is to interfere with the accompanying seat. The following articles are not allowed on the bus: ski equipment, golf equipment, skateboards, scooters, or any other article that the Transportation Department deems to be a potential safety hazard.
2. Follow directions the first time they are given whether it be by the driver, monitor, teacher, chaperone.
3. Be courteous, use no profane language, refrain from shouting in the vehicle or at the bus stop.
4. Eating, drinking and gum chewing is not permitted in the vehicle.
5. Keep the bus clean by placing any refuse in the receptacles provided.
6. Behave in a proper manner while a passenger and follow all applicable safety procedures provided by the District and/or driver. Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, standing in the aisle while the vehicle is moving; standing or kneeling on the seats; pushing and shoving other passengers; throwing items at the bus driver or at another passenger; fighting; shouting out windows.
7. The Saucon Valley School District is a smoke-free District. Accordingly, the possession and/or use of tobacco products are strictly prohibited. A fine may be imposed in accordance with Pennsylvania State Act 145.
8. Stay in your seat at all times except when loading and unloading. Keep head, hands, feet and articles inside the vehicle and to yourself.
9. Maintain proper bus stop conduct and enter and exit the vehicle in an orderly manner so as to protect the health, safety and welfare of yourself and others. Inappropriate bus stop behavior includes, but is not limited to, horseplay; swearing and shouting at others; pushing and shoving others; throwing or shouting things at passing vehicles.
10. **Driver is authorized to assign students to seats.**

Consequences:

Any violation of the above rules of conduct during a student's enrollment in the Saucon Valley School District will result in the imposition of the following disciplinary action. Note: The bus conduct report forms referenced below will be maintained in the student's discipline file.

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Severe Disciplinary Problems:

A severe disciplinary situation which endangers the health, safety and welfare of oneself or others will automatically subject the student to a mandatory automatic suspension of transportation privileges for an appropriate period of time, including permanently, as determined by the appropriate building administrator and may also result in additional disciplinary measures, including expulsion in accordance with the District's Student Disciplinary Policies. Some examples of severe disciplinary situations are as follows: fighting, injuring another student in any manner; violating bus safety rules by not crossing properly; getting near the vehicle wheels while engaged in horseplay; pushing and shoving others; and refusing to take a seat while on the vehicle.

This provision also includes any conduct which involves defacing equipment, and such conduct will result in a mandatory automatic suspension of transportation privileges for an appropriate period of time, including permanently, and may also result in expulsion from the Saucon Valley School District. The individual will be required to reimburse the District for the costs involved in repairing the damaged equipment.

Verbal Warning:

A verbal warning may be issued by the driver, monitor, teacher, or chaperon to a student in reference to their behavior, and an assigned seat may be issued. Documentation of this warning will be submitted to the building administrator.

First Violation:

When a student does not follow the rules or the direction of the driver, monitor, teacher, or chaperon the student may be assigned to a specific seat by the driver, and a bus conduct report form will be filed with the building administrator for his/her disposition. Notification of this incident via mail, telephone or conference will be communicated to the student's parent or guardian.

Second Violation:

The student is referred to the appropriate building administrator for a conference via the filing of a bus conduct report form. The parent or guardian is notified of the incident, and a parent conference may be scheduled. Disciplinary measures, such as detention, suspension, or loss of riding privileges, may be imposed by the administrator in accordance with the District's Student Disciplinary Policies.

Third Violation:

The student is referred to the appropriate building administrator via the filing of a bus conduct report form for a mandatory suspension of transportation privileges. The term of such suspension will be established by the building administrator in his/her discretion and may include a permanent suspension of such privileges. Additional disciplinary measures, such as detention, suspension or expulsion, may be imposed by the building administrator in accordance with the District's Student Disciplinary Policies.

Subsequent Violations:

The student is referred to the appropriate building administrator via the filing of a bus conduct report form for a mandatory suspension of transportation privileges for an appropriate period of time, including permanently, as determined by the building administrator. Such subsequent violations may also result in other disciplinary measures, including expulsion, may be imposed by the building administrator in accordance with the District's Student Disciplinary Policies.

Video Cameras:

Please note: video cameras are being installed in district vehicles for monitoring and discipline purposes.