



Bus Safety Reminders

- Talk to your child about using appropriate behavior and being safe while on the bus.
- Talk with younger and older children, even if you think they know what to do.
- Review the bus rules in the St. Helena Code of Conduct Handbook.
- The bus is an extension of the school. Misbehavior will be handled the same as if they were on the school grounds.
- Remind older siblings to check for their younger siblings to make sure they are on the bus for the ride home in the afternoon.
- DON'T run after the bus if you are late.
- Always stress SAFETY FIRST!

ST. HELENA PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

RULES FOR SCHOOL BUS RIDERS

A school bus with undisciplined passengers is a hazardous zone. The misbehavior of the students can lead to accidents. The driver must concentrate on the driving task at hand and cannot be expected to constantly discipline the students while the bus is in motion. A student's behavior on the bus should be no different than in a classroom. Therefore, for the safe operation of the school bus, students should be aware of and obey the following safety rules:

1. Cooperate with the driver; your safety depends on it.
2. Be on time; the bus will not wait.
3. Cross the road cautiously under the direction of the driver when boarding and leaving the bus.
4. Follow the driver's instructions when loading and unloading.
5. Remain quiet enough not to distract the driver.
6. Have written permission and be authorized by the principal to get on or off at a stop other than the designated stop. (Requires parent's signature, principal's signature and permission slip given to the bus driver to be filed on the bus).
7. Remain seated at all times when the bus is in motion.
8. Keep arms, head or other objects inside the bus at all times.
9. Keep feet and other objects out of the aisle of the bus at all times.
10. Refrain from throwing objects in the bus or out the windows and doors.
11. Use emergency exits only for emergencies, and when instructed to do so.
12. Refrain from eating or drinking on the bus.
13. The use or possession of the following items are not allowed on the bus under any circumstances – tobacco, matches, cigarettes, cigarette lighters, obscene material, weapons, drugs, pets or other prohibited items. (Please see Code of Conduct handbook for a complete list of prohibited items).
14. No glass objects or other objects are allowed on the bus is prohibited by state or federal law or local school board policies.
15. No band instruments, projects and other objects that are too large or too hazardous to be held by the student or stowed safely under the seat will be permitted on the bus.
16. Refrain from damaging the bus in any way (student will be referred to the appropriate school staff and parent/guardian will be responsible for reimbursement to driver for cost of repairs).
17. Remove or secure any drawstrings on clothing or book bags to prevent injury to yourself or other students.



ST. HELENA PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

ROLE OF PARENT/GUARDIANS

Parents should be informed of and should understand their responsibility in working with the bus driver and school district personnel for the welfare and safety of their children.

Also, emphasis should be placed on the problems involved with safe transportation and the extent of responsibility placed on bus drivers who are transporting their children.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

1. Be familiar with and follow local Board and school-level policies for school bus transportation.
2. Have children ready and at their designated pickup points along the route five (5) to ten (10) minutes before the bus is due to arrive.
3. Cooperate with the school and bus driver in teaching children safety precautions and good manners and habits for school bus passengers.
4. Assist when there are disciplinary problems.
5. Avoid detaining the driver on the route.
6. If a problem arises, contact your child's school principal or the Transportation Department.
7. Avoid contacting drivers to change schedules, route assignments, bus stops, etc.
8. Assist the school district in monitoring safe access to passengers by keeping the bus loading and unloading zones free of parked vehicles, trash or debris and keeping vegetation trimmed, etc.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Student's Name: _____ Bus Number: _____

Physical address _____

Parent phone: Home - _____ Cell Number _____

Emergency contact: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____