

CODE OF CONDUCT ON SCHOOL RELATED VEHICLE

Safety depends heavily on student behavior while traveling on school vehicles and as such it is essential that students act responsibly. This also extends to areas of student pick up and transfer points. Pupils are the responsibility of and under the protection of their parents until they enter the vehicle. Parents must exercise reasonable care for the safety of the child or children while waiting for or departing from a vehicle. A school vehicle is viewed to be an extension of the classroom. As a result, all related school policies, i.e. safe schools, code of conduct, zero tolerance, procedures and expectations are in effect the moment a student enters the vehicle. All transported students are accountable to the school principal who has the authority to ensure that an appropriate level of conduct and discipline is maintained for all riders. The Education Act does not mandate school boards to provide transportation. The board may provide or rescind transportation privileges where appropriate and, as such, this benefit is to be respected by all parties. To this end, **inappropriate behavior may lead to the withdrawal of transportation services**. The creation and maintenance of a safe transportation environment is a goal the Sudbury Students Services Consortium is committed to.

Instructions for Parents

Parents/guardians can help to maintain a high standard of safety and acceptable behavior for students while traveling on the school bus.

- ◆Are responsible for their children's safety and conduct prior to boarding and after the drop off at the bus stop, this included to and from the bus stop.
- ◆Shall advise and explain to their children the rules of safety and appropriate behavior on the bus.

Expectations of Riders at Pick up Points

- ◆Be at your point of pick up 5 minutes prior; the school bus will not wait for students
- ◆Conduct yourself in an appropriate manner prior to the arrival of the school bus
- ◆Be respectful to the property of others and to the community
- ◆Stand well away from the road until the bus comes to a complete stop
- ◆JK and SK students are to remain with parents at the stop and be received when dropped off.
- ◆Do not play games or push and shove at your bus stop
- ◆Do not approach the bus until it stops
- ◆Enter the buses single file, don't push or shove and take a seat quickly.

Expectations of Riders while on the Bus

- ◆Listen to your bus driver; they are in control of the bus
- ◆Speak quietly. Your safety is the responsibility of the Driver. If he or she is distracted, this could be dangerous to all the students on the bus. Distractions may include excessive noise, whistling, loud signing, shouting, etc.
- ◆Remain seated, facing forward for the entire trip and until the vehicle comes to a complete stop.
- ◆Keep school supplies on your lap and refrain from bringing large items or sporting items.
- ◆There will be zero tolerance for use of abusive language, profanity, yelling, throwing things, smoking, fighting or any other such activity that may distract the driver or endanger the safety of others
- ◆No eating or drinking
- ◆Co-operate with drivers, bus patrollers
- ◆Keep arms, legs and head inside the vehicle
- ◆Do not willfully damage (including vandalism) the bus in any way, you will be responsible to pay for repairs. In addition to any disciplinary action taken by principal, students will not be permitted back on the bus until damages have been paid for.

To encourage and support a safe environment for all transported students, the vehicle drivers are to report all incidents to the principal. The principal may also find it necessary to monitor behavior on vehicles through the use of video surveillance.

Authorization for the use of video cameras and the collection and maintenance of personal student information will be in accordance with the Education Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information Act.

Good citizenship must be taught and demonstrated. This includes the rights of others. Students are expected to understand that rules and regulations are adopted for the benefit of all. A fair and consistent application of the policy is expected and students should be made aware of the consequences of misbehavior.

The Boards encourage parents, students and the community to assist in any way possible that supports the safe transportation of students.

.....
This portion is to be signed by the parents, guardian or adult student and returned to the school.

Parents must share responsibility for student safety and student conduct. This includes familiarizing where possible, your child with the Code of Conduct and the proper procedures to be followed.

I acknowledge that I have read the Code of Conduct and am aware of the associated consequences.

Signed: _____
Parents/Guardian Student Name School of Attendance

Date: _____