

Elementary (Kindergarten-6th Grade)

Offenses

- Warning - Mailed to parent or guardian
- Referral #1- Student and parent contact
- Referral #2 - 3-day bus suspension
- Referral #3 - 5-day bus suspension
- Referral #4 - 10-day bus suspension

Further offenses individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the year. All referrals will have student and parent contact.

NOTE: *When a student goes 60 calendar days without a report, the student's consequences may start over.*

Secondary (7th-12th Grade)

Offenses

- Warning - Mailed to parent or guardian
- Referral #1- Student and parent contact
- Referral #2 - 5-day bus suspension
- Referral #3 - 10-day bus suspension
- Referral #4 - 20-day bus suspension

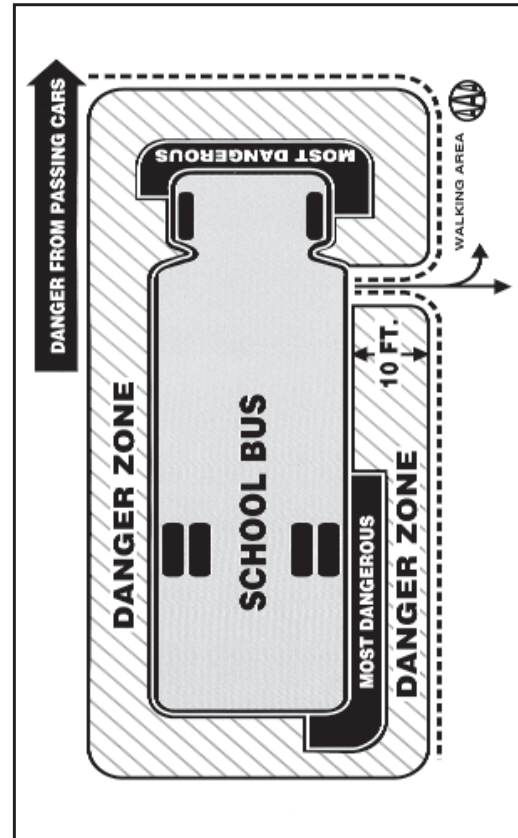
Further offenses - remainder of the year

Other Discipline - Based on the severity of a student's conduct more serious consequences may be imposed at any time, depending on the nature of the offense. Consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school may also result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

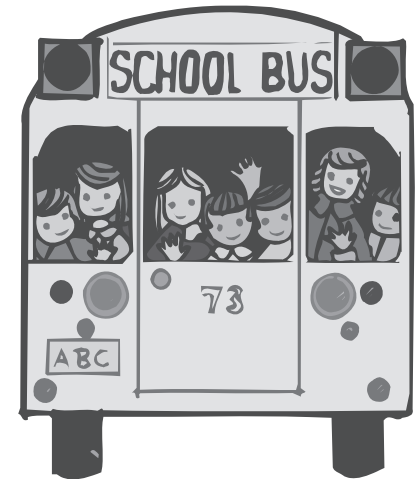
Vandalism/Bus Damage - Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within two weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid. The school district may also pursue other available options.

Criminal Conduct - In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, possession, or vandalism), the Superintendent, local law enforcement officials, and the Department of Public Safety will be informed.

Stay Out of the School Bus Danger Zone!



BUS SAFETY INFORMATION AND RULES



**North Branch Area
Public Schools**

**TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT**

Phone (651) 674-1030

Transportation Behavior Technician: (651) 674-1034

Riding is a Privilege, Not a Right

District #138 is concerned with the safety of your child. One of the areas we are especially concerned with is safety on the school bus. Bus drivers, schools, parents, and the students themselves each have responsibilities in ensuring the District #138 buses remain a safe method of transportation.

Transportation Policy

No bus passes will be issued to students - Buses are at capacity.

Only one pick-up location and one drop-off location will be permitted for each student. They may be different locations. One of these locations may change once during the school year.

Students new to the district or those requesting a change in pick-up or drop-off location will be assigned a bus within five school days - parents will have to transport students during that time. School-age childcare is available until 6 p.m. for a fee if parent transportation is not available.

Bus Stop Determination and Walking Distance

Our district procedure has been that primary students (grades K-6) can be allowed to walk three-tenths of a mile to the bus stop and secondary students (grades 7-12) can be allowed to walk five-tenths of a mile to the bus stop on a public road. Secondary students living less than one mile from school will not be able to utilize bus services to school. Kindergarten children are expected to walk with older students to the nearest bus stop. Each year, bus stop changes will be made to make our routes more efficient. We choose the safest pickup location for all students within a pickup area.

Driver Responsibility and Authority

Drivers assigned to transport students on District #138 buses are licensed and certified by the State of Minnesota as "school bus drivers." In addition, drivers have undergone training in safety, first aid, and emergency procedures.

Drivers are authorized to give directions, establish seating charts, and enforce rules and standards which will promote safety and security for all passengers.

NBAPS may deny transportation to students who fail to demonstrate knowledge of school bus safety rules.

School and Teacher Responsibility

The first week of school is designated as school bus safety week. To ensure the safety of your child, all students in grades Kindergarten - 12th grade will be provided with school bus safety training. Students who wish to remain bus riders must pass a school bus safety test. They must know and understand the following:

1. Transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right.
2. District policies for student conduct and school bus safety.
3. Appropriate conduct while on the bus.
4. The danger zones surrounding a school bus.
5. Procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus.
6. Procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing.
7. School bus emergency and vehicle lane crossing.

Student Responsibility

Students are responsible for maintaining bus safety by following both school bus and bus stop safety rules. Every student who rides the school bus should know and practice the rules of school bus safety.

NOTICE - Students will be given a copy of school bus and bus stop rules during school bus safety training. Rules are to be posted on each bus and both rules and consequences will be periodically reviewed with students by the driver.

Rules at the Bus Stop

1. Get to the stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus will not wait for late students.
2. Respect the rights of others while waiting at your bus stop.
3. Keep your arms and belongings to yourself.
4. Use appropriate language.
5. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
6. After getting off the bus, move at least 10 feet away from the bus.
7. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal you before crossing the street.
8. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
9. No balloons or use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigs, or drugs.
10. Do not damage the school bus.

Rules on the Bus

1. The driver is in charge; listen and follow directions.
2. Sit in the seat facing forward; no profanity allowed.
3. The driver may assign seats; riding the bus is a privilege, not a right.
4. No eating, drinking or use of tobacco, e-cigs, drugs, or alcohol.
5. Talk quietly. No fighting, bullying, teasing, or horseplay.
6. No balloons, pets, weapons, look-a-likes or dangerous objects.
7. Keep hands, arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
8. Keep the bus clean. Do not damage the bus.
9. Do not throw objects of any kind.
10. Bus windows halfway down. No body parts outside the window.
11. Stay out of the "DANGER ZONE" outside the bus.

Parent Responsibility

For our bus safety policy to be most effective, we need your help! Parents should:

1. Become familiar with district rules and policies regarding bus safety. If a behavior is against the rules in school, it is against the rules on the bus and at the bus stop.
2. Help your students understand safety rules and encourage them to follow them.
3. Recognize your responsibility for how your student behaves.
4. Support safe riding and reasonable discipline.
5. Safety is a shared responsibility between the district and the parent.
6. When needed, help students in boarding the bus or in crossing streets.
7. Respect the rights of others.
8. Let us know about bus safety concerns you may have.
9. Watch bus stops.
10. Support all efforts to improve bus safety.

Consequences

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with co-curricular and extra-curricular events (for example, field trips and competitions) will be at the discretion of the building principal or the principal's designee. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges. Bus drivers are encouraged to use a variety of discipline tools available prior to a referral.