

**STUDENT SAFETY:  
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES****FFFF-R****SAFETY RULES**

The following rules shall apply to student conduct on District transportation:

1. Passengers shall follow the driver's and/or bus aides directions at all times.
2. Passengers shall board and leave the bus in an orderly manner at the designated bus stop nearest their home.
3. When on the bus, passengers shall not stand and must be seated facing forward.
4. Passengers shall keep books, band instrument cases, feet, and other objects out of the aisle of the bus.
5. Passengers shall not deface the bus and/or its equipment.
6. A passenger shall not extend his or her head, hands, arms, or legs out of the window nor hold any object out of the window or throw objects within or out of the bus.
7. Passengers shall not smoke or use any form of tobacco on school buses.
8. Usual classroom conduct shall be observed. Unruly conduct, including the use of obscene language, will subject the passenger(s) to disciplinary action.
9. Upon leaving the bus, the student shall not cross immediately in front of the bus until directed by the driver.

**GUIDELINES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

The following procedures shall be followed when a discipline concern arises on a bus serving a regular route or an extracurricular activity:

1. The driver shall attempt to correct the misbehavior of the passenger.
2. If the driver is unable to resolve the problem, the principal or designee shall be notified immediately, or if the incident occurs in the afternoon, not later than the morning of the next school day. The notification shall be made in writing on the bus conduct report.
3. The principal or designee shall investigate the incident and notify the Director of Operations of the action taken.
4. If a conference is necessary involving the principal or designee, the student passenger(s), the driver, and parent(s) may be necessary.

5. The principal or designee in consultation with the Director of Operations may suspend the student's bus riding privileges. If such a suspension occurs, the parent(s) or guardian shall be notified prior to the effective time of the suspension.
6. In the case of serious misconduct that endangers the safety of other passengers or the driver, the driver shall have the authority to put the student off the bus or call for law enforcement assistance; the principal and parent(s) shall be notified of the situation as soon as possible.

In such an instance, the student shall not be provided bus service until a conference involving all persons listed above has been held.

Disciplinary sanctions and changes in transportation for a handicapped student shall be made in accordance with provisions in the student's Individual Education Plan.

### **Parent/Guardian Protocol for Retrieving a Student from a School Bus**

Once a student boards the school bus he or she will not be released to a parent/guardian without the parent/guardian first contacting office personnel at the student's home campus and obtaining a written approval for the release of the student. The written approval will be in the form of a special pass that is quick to obtain and easily recognizable by bus drivers and transportation personnel. Everyone shall follow these guidelines that are designed to increase the safety of the student while on board a vehicle either leased or owned by the Dumas Independent School District. Thank you for your support and patience of this safety initiative.  
Dumas ISD Superintendent.