

Ceres Unified School District

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

The State Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, Section 14263, states: "Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road."

The Ceres Unified School District Governing Board has adopted a transportation policy which in part provides for the maximum safety, not only from home to school and activity trips, but also to and from the bus stop. To assist your student to understand his/her responsibilities as a bus rider of the School District, the following rules of conduct must be followed:

1. Practice safe walking habits as directed by the care provider, such as using sidewalks. Do not walk - run - play using traffic lanes.
2. Trespassing or damaging private property could result in the loss of bus riding privileges.
3. The State Law does not permit the care provider (parents/sitters or other) to escort any students across the roadway with the bus present, therefore, the care provider must wait on the same side of the roadway as the bus stop.
4. Student must be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled pick up time.
5. When waiting for the bus, stand on the sidewalk/edge of road as directed by bus operator.
6. When exiting the bus, all preK-8 students must wait to be escorted by the bus driver across any road.
7. When exiting the bus, 9-12 students may cross the road without an escort as long as the red lights on the bus are flashing.

The following list of unacceptable conduct will be of value to you in establishing guidelines for your student's behavior. This list, though incomplete, is an indication of conduct that will **not be tolerated**:

1. Using a bus stop other than the student's designated stop.
2. Holding any part of the body or any object out of the bus window.
3. Any movement out of seats while bus is moving; legs, feet, or other objects obstructing the aisle; or facing to the rear of the bus.
4. Improper bus stop procedures (not lining up, rock throwing, playing in the street, property damage at bus stop, etc.).
5. Throwing objects in, out of, or at the bus.
6. Littering on the bus or at the bus stop.
7. Bringing aboard items of injurious or objectionable nature (animals, reptiles, insects, glass containers, etc.)
8. Eating or drinking on the bus.
9. Disrespectful behavior toward and/or failure to obey the bus operator.
10. Tampering with the radio or bus controls.
11. Failure to remain quiet at all railroad crossings.
12. Creating a danger to self or others.
13. Abusive body contact (slapping, hitting, poking, shoving, pulling hair, etc.) in a bus or when loading or unloading.
14. Using profane language or obscene gestures.
15. Creating noises which are distracting to the bus operator (screaming, whistling, shouting, etc.).
16. Lighting matches, possession and/or use of vape devices, tobacco, alcohol, or questionable substances on the bus.
17. Failure to properly identify oneself to bus operator.
18. Any type of damage to the **bus or another student's private property**.
19. Standing or walking within twelve (12) feet of the bus except when loading or unloading.
20. Crossing the road behind the bus.
21. Creating a hostile educational environment as defined in C.U.S.D. conduct code (E.C. 48900.4).

THERE WILL BE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FOR THREATENING OR CAUSING BODILY HARM

