



Bus Discipline Procedures and Consequences

Behavior on the School Bus

Riding the school bus is a privilege. This privilege may be temporarily denied or permanently revoked if misconduct jeopardizes the safe operation of the school bus or the safety of students riding the bus. School suspension is a possible sanction.

Behavior or activity jeopardizing the safe operation of the school bus or interfering with the welfare of other vehicle occupants is prohibited. The school bus operator will report promptly and in writing to appropriate administrative staff any conduct appearing to require disciplinary action. After administrative staff evaluation, appropriate disciplinary action will follow. A copy of the disposition will be returned to the school bus operator.

The code below classifies unacceptable behavior into four levels. The examples are not exhaustive but illustrative. Additionally, all consequences are dependent upon the severity and frequency of the behavior. The Office of Transportation reserves the right to consider extenuating circumstances in determining disciplinary action.

Level 1	
Infraction	Consequences
Infractions that interfere with the orderly transportation of students. Some examples are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Screaming• Failure to stay seated• Littering on the bus• Tampering with the possessions of other passengers	The bus driver reports infractions on the bus. The school administrator administers consequences. This action may include any or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Verbal warning and referral issued• Contact with parent• Assigned seat at the discretion of driver

Level 2	
Infraction	Consequences
More severe infractions that interfere with the safe transportation of students. Some examples are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeated occurrences of Level 1 behaviors• Bullying other passengers, including verbal abuse• Profanity towards staff• Damage to the bus interior/exterior	The bus driver reports infractions on the bus. The school administrator administers consequences. This action may include any or all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Referral issued• Contact with parent• Assigned seat at the discretion of driver• Loss of bus privileges for up to 5 days and cost of repairs

Level 3	
Infraction	Consequences
Actions that endanger the safety of the driver or students and which impairs the driver's ability to drive safely. Some examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeated occurrences of Level 1 or 2 behaviors• Refusal to remain in seats• Sexual misconduct• Throwing objects INSIDE or OUTSIDE of the bus• Refusal to follow staff directions for safety	The bus driver reports infractions on the bus. The school administrator administers consequences. At more serious levels, the Director of Transportation may be involved. This action may include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Referral issued• Contact with parent• Loss of bus privileges for 6 to 9 days• Repeated incidents of Level 2 behavior may result in removal from transportation for the remainder of the school year

Level 4	
Infraction	Consequences
<p>Infractions that endanger the safety of the driver or students and may require local police to intervene. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fighting, including pushing and/or wrestling and play fighting Sexual misconduct Possession of dangerous objects or weapons Possession or use of tobacco, vape, alcohol, drugs or controlled substances Opening emergency exits and/or exiting the bus without authorization 	<p>The bus driver reports infraction on the bus. The school administrator administers consequences. At more serious levels, the Director of Transportation may be involved. This action may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral issued Contact with parent Loss of bus privileges 10 days Repeated incidents may result in removal from transportation for the remainder of the school year Illegal activity will be referred to Baltimore County Police Department Suspension from school and/or extended suspension

Consequences for repeat infractions related to transportation include, but are not limited to:			
1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
<p>Parent notification required Appropriate Action required Student Conference Seat change on bus or assigned seat Bus or School Suspension commensurate with offense Code of Student Conduct implemented as appropriate</p>	<p>Bus Suspension (up to 5 days)</p>	<p>Bus Suspension (6 to 9 days)</p>	<p>Bus Suspension (remainder of the school year)</p>
	<p>Appropriate Action Required Additional Bus or School Suspension commensurate with offense Implement Code of Student Conduct as Appropriate For students with disabilities, bus suspension is counted as a suspension from school if transportation is included as a related service on the IEP/504 Plan</p>		

Video/Digital Cameras and Audio Recording Devices

School buses are equipped with video/digital cameras and audio recording devices. These tools monitor the passenger area of the bus. As such, you are subject to audio surveillance. The objective is to provide an important additional tool to assist the driver and administration in managing student conduct on school buses, an important safety consideration that benefits all.