



Van Buren School District Transportation Procedures

1. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will not distract the attention of the driver or disturb other riders on the bus.
2. **Follow the directions of the driver at all times.** The bus driver has the same authority on the bus as the teacher has in the classroom.
3. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time. Stand back about ten (10) feet from the bus stop and wait for the door to open before moving closer.
4. Students who must cross the road after leaving the bus in the afternoon must go to a point about ten (10) feet in front of the bus and wait. **Cross the road only after the driver or student patrol has signaled you to do so.**
5. When entering or leaving the bus, do so quickly and in an orderly manner.
6. Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
7. Speak softly while riding the bus, so that the driver is not distracted.
8. Keep food and drinks off the bus.
9. Keep tobacco of all kinds off the bus.
10. Keep aisles of the bus clear of books, equipment, etc....
11. Keep all parts of the body inside the bus except to unload.
12. Foul language and unnecessary physical contact with other students will not be tolerated.
13. Do not ask the driver to let you off the bus at any other place other than your regular stop. He/she is not authorized to do this.
14. Unacceptable behavior on the bus carries negative consequences. Unacceptable behavior will be reported by the bus driver to the building principal on a discipline form. Multiple minor offenses or one (1) major offense may result in loss of riding privileges.
15. A student that becomes extremely hostile or out of control may be removed from the bus and put off at the nearest school site. The driver will turn the student over to a certified staff member and give him/her the student's name and home school. Parents will be contacted to pick up the student. In order to guarantee the safety of the student, if the parent cannot be reached, a School Resource Officer will be contacted.
16. Parents should contact the principal of the school the student attends if there is a question concerning rules, discipline, etc. Under no circumstances should a parent or other non-school person step onto a bus to confront a driver or a student.
17. Students must obtain written permission from the principal or school authority to ride any bus but their own.
18. Questions concerning bus routes should be directed to the Van Buren School District Transportation Department (471- 3140)

These Acts of the Arkansas Legislature should be of interest:

Act 814 of 1997 makes it unlawful for any person (student or adult) to threaten, curse, or use abusive language to a school bus driver in the presence of students.

Act 36 of 1987 makes the parents of a minor child responsible for reimbursing the school for any damages caused by the minor child up to \$5,000.00.

The following statement must be signed by the parent or guardian of the students who are being transported by the school district. Please remove the lower part of this notice, sign and return to the student's teacher.

As a Parent or Guardian, I do hereby acknowledge that I have received and read the policies relating to students riding school buses in the Van Buren School District.

Name of Student _____ School Now Attending _____

Grade _____ Address _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Bus Number _____

Number of miles to school _____ Phone number(s) _____