

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT**Bus Rules and Regulations for Students**

In accordance with WAC 392-145-035 the Pullman School District Board of Directors adopts the following written rules for passengers riding the Pullman School District buses or cars.

1.0 School Bus Rules and Regulations

The vehicle driver has authority and responsibility for the behavior of students using school district transportation. The students must obey the driver promptly and willingly and shall conduct themselves in accordance with the following rules and regulations.

2.0 Prior to Loading or While Waiting

- 2.1 Students shall be on time. Be at the stop five minutes early and wait in a safe and orderly manner.
- 2.2 Students shall not stand or play in the roadway or on private property unless authorized to do so by property owner.
- 2.3 Students shall not harass the motoring or walking public or private property owners.
- 2.4 Students shall not litter or damage public or private property or throw articles of any kind.
- 2.5 When it is necessary for students to walk on roadways without sidewalks, they should walk along the left side facing oncoming traffic.

3.0 Loading and Unloading

- 3.1 Students shall not approach a bus until it has come to a complete stop and the access doors have been opened.
- 3.2 Students shall cross the roadway only in front of the bus and only when the driver gives a hand signal to cross.
- 3.3 Students shall not be ordered or allowed to depart the bus other than at his or her regular stop unless written permission is first obtained from the school principal via note from parents or guardians and given to the bus driver.
- 3.4 Heavy, sharp, bulky and/or other articles that may be hazardous in the event of an accident or an emergency stop shall not be transported in the passenger area of any school bus.
- 3.5 Items which shall not be transported within the passenger area of a school bus also shall include all forms of animal life (except seeing-eye dogs, etc.), firearms, weapons, breakable containers, flammables and all other articles which could adversely affect the safety of the bus and passengers.

4.0 General

- 4.1 Students are to remain in their seats while the vehicle is in motion. Students must sit facing the front of the bus and may talk in a low conversational level with students sitting near them.
- 4.2 The driver may require that students sit in an assigned seat.

- 4.3 Windows may be opened only with permission of the driver. When opened, no student shall extend any part of his or her body or throw anything out of the windows, whether the school bus is in motion or standing still.
- 4.4. Students shall not eat, drink or use tobacco products on the bus and they shall not throw any refuse in the bus or out the windows.
- 4.5 Except when absolutely necessary, students shall refrain from talking to the driver when the vehicle is in motion.
- 4.6 Students shall not sit in the driver's seat and students shall not tamper with any emergency doors, windows or equipment unless emergency conditions exist or while emergency exit drills are being conducted.
- 4.7 In the event of an actual emergency, emergency exit procedures, as established by drills, shall be followed by all students.
- 4.8 Fighting, excessive noise, boisterous behavior, vulgar or profane language or gestures will not be allowed. Obscene language or gestures directed toward the driver will result in loss of bus privileges.
- 4.9 If requested by the driver, students must identify themselves. If a student should refuse, they may be denied transportation immediately and until proper identification is provided.
- 4.10 Any damage to a bus must be reported to the driver at once. Students will reimburse the school district for damage to buses resulting from students' misconduct and may be subject to loss of riding privileges and suspension or expulsion from school.
- 4.11 At railroad crossings, students must remain quiet and in their seats.

5.0 Enforcement of Rules and Regulations

Riding the school bus is a privilege not a right. The following procedures exist pertaining to misconduct on the bus:

- 5.1 **First Report:** Child and parents informed by transportation department.
- 5.2 **Second Report:** Three- (3) day suspension from riding the bus.
- 5.3 **Third Report:** Two- (2) week suspension from riding the bus.
- 5.4 **Fourth Report:** Permanent suspension for the remainder of the semester.

Flagrant violation (such as abuse of driver or major violation) could result in more severe penalty or accelerated time frames.

Legal References:

RCW 28A.160	Transporting of children to school or school activities--Transporting of elderly--Insurance
RCW 28A.160.020	Authorization for private school students to ride buses--Conditions
RCW 28A.160.030	Authorizing individual transportation or other arrangements--Pupils must provide their own transportation, when
WAC 392-141	Transportation Authority and State Reimbursement
WAC 392-172-204	Transportation (Handicapped)
WAC 392-172-035	Definitions of "free appropriate, public education," "adult student," "handicapped student," "parent," and "school district"
WAC 392-145-011	School District Requirements
WAC 392-145-016	Rules for Students Riding School Buses

WAC 392-145-070 Rail Grade Crossings
WAC 392-145-021 General Operating Requirements

Approved: April 1999
Revised: November 9, 2011