

# **Fresno Unified Administrative Regulation (AR) 5131.1**

## **Bus Conduct**

### **Bus Rider Rules**

The following rules apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, district-chartered or district-contracted buses including when on school activity trips:

The following conduct is a violation of district bus regulations:

1. Riders shall follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.

*(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)*

2. Riders should arrive at their designated bus stop on time and stand in a safe place at the stop to wait quietly for the bus.

*(cf. 3541 - Transportation Routes and Services)*

3. Riders shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.

4. Riders shall sit down and fasten any passenger restraint systems. Riders shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.

5. Riders shall not block the aisle or emergency exit with their body or personal belongings. Riders may bring large or bulky items, such as class projects or musical instruments, on the bus only if the item does not displace any other rider or obstruct the driver's vision.

6. Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow passengers. Vulgarity, rude, or abusive behavior is prohibited.

7. Any noise or behavior that could distract the driver, such as loud talking, scuffling or fighting, throwing objects, or standing or changing seats, is prohibited and may lead to suspension of riding privileges.

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

8. Riders shall not use tobacco products, eat, or drink while riding the bus.

*(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)*

9. Riders may bring electronic devices onto the bus only if such devices are permitted at school. If the use of cellular telephones or similar devices disrupts the safe operation of the school bus, the bus driver may direct the student to no longer use the device on the bus.

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*

10. Riders shall not put any part of the body out of the window nor throw any item from the bus.

11. Riders shall help keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment.

12. Service animals are permitted on school transportation services; all other animals are prohibited. (Education Code 39839; 13 CCR 1216)

*(cf. 6163.2 - Animals at School)*

13. Upon reaching their destination, riders shall remain seated until the bus comes to a complete

stop and upon the signal from the driver, unfasten any restraint system, enter the aisle, and go directly to the exit.

14. Riders should be alert for traffic when leaving the bus and shall follow the district's transportation safety plan when crossing the road and exiting the bus.

*(cf. 3543 - Transportation Safety and Emergencies)*

- 15. Having dangerous objects, glass, weapons, etc., on bus.
- 16. No Fighting or abusive body contact on or off the bus
- 17. Riders shall give proper identification when requested by driver.
- 18. Possession, use, or sales of a controlled substance.
- 19. Any action that is determined by the bus driver to be dangerous

The driver or any passenger shall report any violation of the district's bus rules to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the misbehavior, determine the severity of the misconduct, and take action accordingly. In instances of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined appropriate by the principal or designee.

Bus drivers shall not deny transportation services except as directed by the principal or designee.

Students transported in a school bus or in a school pupil activity 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. (Ed Code 14103)

If it is determined by the principal or designee, in consultation with the Transportation Department that a rider is guilty of misconduct, the principal or designee will initiate the following actions:

- 1. Upon the first offense of misconduct, the rider and their parent/guardian will be given notice and warning.
- 2. Upon a second offense of misconduct, the rider will be denied transportation services for a period not to exceed two weeks.
- 3. Upon a third offense of misconduct, the rider may be denied transportation services for the remainder of the school year.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this administrative regulation, in case of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined by the principal in consultation with the Transportation Department, up to the remainder of the school year.

### **Bus Surveillance Systems**

The Superintendent or designee shall monitor the use and maintenance of district's bus surveillance system.

Students are prohibited from tampering with the bus surveillance system. Any student found tampering with the system shall be subject to discipline and shall be responsible for the costs of any necessary repairs or replacement.

*(cf. 3515.4 - Recovery for Property Loss or Damage)*  
*(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism and Graffiti)*

Camera supports may be installed in all buses, and cameras may be rotated among the buses and activated at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

The content of any recording is a student record and may only be accessed in accordance with the district's policy and administrative regulation concerning student records.

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*  
*(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)*

*Fresno Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy or parental status, medical information, military veteran status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.*

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