

# **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS**

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**The State of Washington requires any changes in transportation from school to be addressed in writing. We will not accept telephone calls for changes except in emergency situations. This is for your child's safety.**

## **RESPECT THE DRIVER'S RIGHT TO DRIVE SAFELY**

Students must:

- A. Obey the driver promptly and willingly. The driver is in charge of the bus and pupils at all times.

Students must not:

- A. Sit in the driver's seat, or be to the left or right of the driver.
- B. Talk to the driver more than is necessary.
- C. Open a window on the bus without first getting the permission of the driver.
- D. Bring any type of animal on the school bus, with the exception of guide dogs.
- E. Sell or offer for sale on the bus any item.

## **RESPECT YOUR OWN AND OTHERS' RIGHT TO SAFELY RIDE THE BUS**

Students must:

- A. Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- B. Board and leave the bus in an orderly manner.
- C. In the event of an actual or simulated emergency, follow the emergency procedures as established by the district Emergency Exit Drill Guidelines.
- D. Talk quietly.

Students must not:

- A. Extend their head, hand, arms, or any other part of their body out of a window, whether the bus is moving or parked.
- B. Shout at persons inside or outside the bus.
- C. Bring on the bus or have in their possession objects which may cause injury to themselves or others. Items specifically prohibited: firearms, knives, firecrackers, matches, glass items or containers and large bulky items.

## **RESPECT YOUR OWN AND OTHERS' LIFE SPACE**

Students must:

- A. If assigned a seat by a driver or an administrator, remain seated in that seat unless permission to change is given by the driver.
- B. Sit properly in their seats: upright, facing forward and out of the aisle.
- C. Keep their hands and feet to themselves.
- D. Keep books and personal belongings out of the aisle.

Students must not:

- A. Throw objects on the school bus.
- B. Fight or intimidate others.

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## **RESPECT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY**

Students must:

- A. Assist in keeping the interior of the bus clean by using the garbage containers and not depositing waste paper or other material on the floor or interior of the bus.

Students must not:

- A. Damage a school bus in any manner. The district shall be reimbursed by the student or their guardian(s) for damage done to a bus by that student.
- B. Light matches, smoke or chew tobacco on the school bus.
- C. Eat food or drink beverages on the school bus. Exceptions will be made on extra-curricular or special trips upon permission from the coach/advisor.

## **RESPECT OWN AND OTHERS' RIGHTS AT THE BUS STOP OR LOADING AREA**

Students must:

- A. Cross the road in front of the bus only, walk straight across the road when crossing, and cross the road only when signaled to by the driver.
- B. Line up and be courteous to others at the bus stop/loading areas.
- C. Where practical, when walking to or from the bus stop, walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- D. Exit the bus at their regular stop only, unless a bus pass has been obtained from the school office specifying differently. This applies to all grade levels.
- E. Be waiting at the bus stop prior to the normal arrival time of the bus.

Students must not:

- A. Stand or play in the roadway.
- B. Push or shove each other.
- C. Throw rocks.
- D. Run in the area around a school bus.

*As defined by state law, school districts are not required to provide transportation. Riding the bus is a privilege, Thorp School District Policy 6600. Failure to obey these rules can result in the loss of the privilege. The attached SCHOOL BUS RIDER AGREEMENT form MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED to the bus driver within five (5) school days. Failure to return the signed agreement form may result in the loss of bus riding privilege until the form is received by the district.*