

Students

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Riding

Students riding school buses shall follow all rules and regulations as specified by the District (Exhibit A and B). The driver has full authority over the bus that he/she is driving.

Bus routes for the District shall be operated in conformity with written route descriptions formulated by the Director of Business Services and officially adopted by the Board of Education. Changes in these routes may be made by the Director of Business Services only after changes are approved by the Board.

Bicycles

The use of bicycles as a means of transportation to and from school shall be determined by parents.

Parents should consider student judgment, maturity and motor development when considering if the student will or will not use a bicycle to and from school.

Violations of school rules pertaining to bicycle riding may result in the privilege being revoked by the principal.

Transportation in Private Vehicles

Administrative and certificated personnel, classified management staff members and the attendance and welfare technician may transport students with the approval of the Board of Education.

Approval will require:

1. Verification of a valid driver's license.
2. Verification of liability insurance.
3. Verification that the private vehicle will transport only that number of students for which seat belts are available, and that students use the seat belts found in the vehicle.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

EXHIBIT A

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS FOR STUDENT RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Transportation of students by the East Whittier City School District is not a requirement. Rather, it is a service to the students of the District, and parents may avail themselves of this service.
2. Bus transportation is provided to eligible students only. Eligible students who choose to ride the bus must do so daily.
3. For the first five (5) days of school, parents or parent designee of kindergarten and first grade students must meet their children at the bus stop after school or the child will be returned to school.
4. Student transported in a school bus shall be under the authority and be responsible directly to the driver of the bus. The driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the students while they are on the bus and is responsible to escort students across a street, highway or road.
5. Parents or adults are not allowed to ride the bus except as chaperons on field trips.
6. Students will not cross in front of the bus unless directed by the bus driver. Students must get off only at assigned stops. Students must go directly home after getting off the bus and should not talk to or accept rides from strangers.
7. The following procedure will be used to notify parents and principals of poor student conduct on the school bus:
 - a. Upon the first infraction of bus rules, the student will be issued a written warning which will require the school to contact the parent(s).
 - b. Upon the issuance of a second notice, a student will be denied bus service for a period of five (5) school days, and the parent will be contacted by telephone or mail.
 - c. Upon the issuance of a third notice, the principal may revoke bus privileges for the rest of the semester/school year. If bus service is restored, the student will have conditional status and may have his/her bus privileges revoked for the remainder of the year upon the occurrence of another infraction.
 - d. In cases where students are guilty of willfully defying the valid authority of the driver, using profanity, vulgarity, opening or playing with the bus emergency door, or jeopardizing the safety of others, the student will be removed from the bus without the above warning for a period to be determined by the driver and principal.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

EXHIBIT B

RULES FOR STUDENTS RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

1. While awaiting the arrival of the school bus, the students should stand at least six (6) feet away from the roadway, making use of sidewalks where provided. They should refrain from playing in the road or on private property. They should wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and the door is opened before boarding. There shall be no disorderly conduct, including but not limited to shoving, pushing, fighting, throwing objects, verbal harassment, excessive noise, or any activity that may be dangerous, destructive or otherwise objectionable to nearby property owners.
2. Upon boarding the bus, students will go directly to their seats and remain there until the bus driver gives them permission to leave the bus. The students should not push or shove while boarding the bus.
3. Students will keep their hands, arms and heads inside at all times, always facing forward while riding the bus. Students will not open or close windows without driver approval.
4. Loud talking, shouting and signing will not be permitted on the school bus.
5. Students will be courteous to the bus driver and to their fellow students. Pushing and shoving will not be tolerated.
6. Eating on the bus is not permitted. Students will not litter the bus.
7. Students will obey bus drivers at all times. Drivers need and appreciate courteous and proper student behavior.
8. Students will not cross in front of the bus unless directed by the bus driver. Students must get off only at assigned stops. Students must go directly home after getting off the bus and should not talk to or accept rides from strangers.
9. The following procedure will be used to notify parents and principals of poor student conduct on the school bus:
 - a. Upon the first infraction of bus rules, the student will be issued a written warning which will require the school to contact the parent(s).
 - b. Upon the issuance of a second notice, a student will be denied bus service for a period of five (5) school days, and the parent will be contacted by telephone or mail.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

Rules for Students Riding the School Bus (continued)

Exhibit B (continued)

- c. Upon the issuance of a third notice, the principal may revoke bus privileges for the rest of the semester/school year. If bus service is restored, the student will have conditional status and may have his/her bus privileges revoked for the remainder of the year upon the occurrence of another infraction.
- d. In cases where students are guilty of willfully defying the valid authority of the driver, using profanity, vulgarity, opening or playing with the bus emergency door, or jeopardizing the safety of others, the student will be removed from the bus without the above warning for a period to be determined by the driver and principal.

The preceding rules shall be discussed with the students at school and will be sent home with each student to review with his parents at the beginning of the school year and with all new enrollees during the year.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

EXHIBIT C

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

All pupils who are transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety as follows:

- (1) At least once in each school year all pupils who receive home-to-school transportation shall receive safety instructions which includes, but is not limited to, proper loading and unloading procedures, including escorting by the driver, proper passenger conduct, bus evacuation, the location of emergency equipment and the responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit. As part of the instruction, pupils shall evacuate the school bus through emergency exit doors.

The following information shall be documented each time the instruction required by this paragraph is given:

- (a) The name of the school district
 - (b) The name and location of the school
 - (c) Date of instruction
 - (d) Name of supervising adult(s)
 - (e) number of pupils participating
 - (f) Grade levels of pupils
 - (g) Subjects covered in instruction
 - (h) Amount of time taken for instruction
 - (i) Bus drivers name
 - (j) Bus number
 - (k) Additional remarks
- (2) Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding on a school bus shall receive safety instruction which includes, but is not limited to, location of emergency exits and location and use of emergency equipment. Instruction shall also include responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.
 - (3) The information recorded pursuant to paragraphs one and two shall remain on file at the school for one year from the date of instruction and shall be subject to inspection by the Department of the Highway patrol.

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

School Bus Safety (continued)

Exhibit C (continued)

- (4) Home-to-school transportation will be discontinued or delayed whenever atmospheric conditions reduce visibility on the roadway to 200 feet or less.

During school activities trips the bus driver shall have the authority to discontinue school bus operation if the driver determines that it is unsafe to continue operation because of reduced visibility.

- (5) Copies of this policy shall be made available to every contractor providing transportation services to the District.

Legal Reference: California Vehicle Code
 34501.6
 Education Code
 39831.5