

## EUT POLICY ON SCHOOL BUSES

The costs of transportation for EUT students may be paid in full or in part by the commissioner except that the commissioner may not reimburse parents for the transportation of a student.

Bus transportation provided the Unorganized Territories shall be in keeping with the comfort, safety, and welfare of the students and shall be in charge of responsible drivers who shall exercise the adequate control over student conduct on their buses.

Bus stops and bus turnarounds shall be determined by the bus driver in consultation with the school principal or agent in charge. Bus stops and turnarounds shall be evaluated periodically to ensure continued safety and to best serve the interest of the EUT school system and its students.

Children may be required to walk a reasonable distance to a scheduled bus stop. Stops will be chosen with concern for numbers and for the safety of the children involved. Bus drivers shall pick up only at the scheduled stops; they shall not admit students not assigned to their bus. Drivers may not exceed the legal bus capacity.

Students shall ride only on assigned buses. At the close of school, they shall be transported to their original pick-up point; and they will not be permitted to leave the bus at other points or ride other buses.

Exceptions to this rule may be made by the bus driver, with the approval of the principal or agent, when this is in the best interest of the student and the EUT system. Requests for exceptions are to be made in writing and submitted to the bus driver, principal, or agent.

### Regulations for Pupils Transported on EUT Buses

1. All pupils shall be ready in the morning at the usual time for the bus to arrive at their homes or at their "school bus stop". The bus cannot wait for those who are tardy, but the bus will come to a complete stop before proceeding.
2. Students shall ride only on assigned buses. At the close of school, they shall be transported only to the original pick-up point; they shall not be permitted to disembark at other points or ride other buses. In case of emergency or when the student has a note signed by their parent/guardian, the principal may authorize exceptions to this regulation.
3. The driver is in full charge of the bus and the pupils. Pupils will obey the driver promptly and cheerfully.
4. Pupils are not to stand in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
5. If the driver wishes, he may assign seats in the bus, and the pupils will take the seats assigned to them.
6. When the bus is in motion, pupils are **NOT to stand, extend arms out of windows, move about, leave, or enter the bus.**
7. Damage done to seats or other equipment by a pupil will be paid for by that pupil. Knives are not allowed on the school buses.
8. Conversation must be in good taste, never loud or boisterous. Please refrain from unnecessary conversation with the driver.
9. Smoking, matches, or lighters will not be permitted on the bus.
10. Courtesy is expected from everyone — there will be no pushing or shoving.

11. Throwing or snatching of hats, caps, books, lunch pails, etc., will not be permitted.
12. Pupils are expected to keep the bus clean. Do not throw paper or other refuse on the floor.
13. No pupil will leave the bus without the driver's permission except at home or at school.
14. When leaving the bus, remain seated until the bus stops. If you cross the road, do so in front of the bus, and make sure the highway is clear.
15. The right of pupils to ride the bus is dependent upon their behavior and their observance of the above regulations. Drivers are authorized to enforce these regulations **and others that they feel are in line with good citizenship**. Any misbehavior or disregard for bus regulations will be reported to the school principal by the bus driver.

**Enforcement of bus regulations** is the responsibility of the principal or agent in charge.

Students found guilty of breaking any of the above regulations may:

1. First offense: receive written warning and possibly assigned seat
2. Second offense: receive written warning, assigned seat
3. Third offense: parents will be notified in writing, and students may be suspended from being allowed to ride the bus for a period of time as determined by the Principal or Director.
4. Fourth Offense: suspension from the bus until a signed agreement regarding bus behavior is created and agreed upon between the school and family. Failure to comply with this plan may result in suspension from the bus for the remainder of the year.

If the student's behavior presents a danger to themselves or others, they may be suspended from the bus for an indefinite period of time. Parents will be immediately notified of the suspension. Reinstatement of bus privileges will be at the discretion of the principal or agent in charge, in consultation with the Director of EUT.

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