

Harper Creek Transportation

Bus Behavior Guidelines and Consequences

- A. **Class I Offenses** – Including, but not limited to
- a. Eating or drinking (sodas, fruit drinks, etc) on bus. Bottled water will be allowed during hot months.
 - b. Excessive noise
 - c. Excessive horseplay
 - d. Leaving seat/standing while bus is in motion
 - e. Squirt gun/liquid containers in any form, except those intended for lunch box use
 - f. Radios, tape recorders, cell phone, I – pods and electronic games are not allowed on the bus (permitted with permission of the bus driver)
 - g. Riding unassigned bus without permission or using unassigned bus stop
 - h. Other offenses as reported by the driver or principal
- B. **Class II offenses** – Including but not limited to
- a. Hanging out of window
 - b. Spitting
 - c. Throwing/shooting of any object inside or out of bus
 - d. Physical aggression against any one person
 - e. Use of tobacco or any controlled substance
 - f. Vandalism to bus (restitution will be made)
 - g. Holding onto/or attempting to hold onto any portion of the exterior of the bus
 - h. Lighting of matches, fireworks or any flammable object or substance
 - i. Unauthorized (a.) entering or leaving bus, (b) use of emergency door, (c.) tampering with bus equipment
 - j. Profanity, verbal abuse, harassment, obscene gestures or possession of unacceptable material
 - k. Other offenses as reported by driver or principal

Disciplinary Action

Bus riders are under the authority of the school administrator and the bus driver, and shall observe established and appropriate standards of classroom behavior and dress. Students who have the opportunity to ride district schools buses may do so as long as they display behavior that is reasonable and safe. Video cameras are used to monitor behavior on buses. The responsibility for student supervision by the District shall begin when the student boards the bus in the morning and is retained until the child leaves the bus at the

end of the day; or until released to the parent/guardian in a manner consistent with guidelines on release of students.

Bus-riding privileges may be denied to a student who violates the rules of conduct.

Students who damage district property may be suspended or expelled from school. Under Michigan law, parents or guardians may be charged for the cost of damage done to district property by their children.

Denial of school bus service

Riding the bus is a privilege – not a right. Inappropriate conduct at bus stops, on buses or in the process of boarding or disembarking from a bus may result in the denial of bus-riding privileges. When [school bus rules](#) are violated, the following will occur:

Reasonable Requests – Students who refuse to give their names, to accept a temporary or permanent seating assignment, or to respond appropriately to other reasonable requests may be denied bus-riding privileges.

Warning – The bus driver may warn a student to correct his or her behavior before taking disciplinary action.

First Infraction – Following the first infraction documented in writing, a student may be denied bus-riding privileges on buses for a minimum of one day.

Second Infraction – The second infraction documented in writing may result in the denial of bus-riding privileges from buses for a minimum of three days.

Third Infraction – The third infraction documented in writing may result in the denial of bus-riding privileges from buses for a minimum of five days.

Fourth Infraction – The fourth infraction documented in writing may result in the denial of bus-riding privileges from buses for one month or for the rest of the semester, whichever is longer.

Serious Infractions – If an infraction is deemed serious enough, the student may be denied bus-riding privileges from buses for an entire school year.

Bus Rules of Conduct

Student safety is the No. 1 priority of every bus driver in Harper Creek Community Schools. Your child's school bus is an extension of the school. It is important for students to follow the rules on the bus as they would in the classroom. Well-behaved riders allow the driver to focus on driving, not [discipline](#).

Please take a moment to review these safety rules with your child.

Waiting for the Bus

1. Walk to the bus stop with a parent or in groups of two or more.
2. be at the stop 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
3. Stay out of the street and away from traffic.
4. Respect property in the neighborhood.
5. Be kind and courteous to others.
6. Form one line before the bus comes to a stop.

Boarding the Bus

1. Let the bus come to a complete stop before boarding.
2. Enter the bus one person at a time.
3. Board quickly without crowding or pushing.
4. Use the handrail, and do not run on the steps.
5. Go directly to a seat, and sit upright facing the front.
6. Never go under the bus to retrieve a lost or dropped item.

On the Bus

1. Be courteous, and obey the driver's instructions.
2. Keep the aisles clear, and remain seated until your stop.
3. If seats are assigned, sit in your assigned seat.
4. Keep your hands, arms, feet, legs and head away from others and inside the bus.
5. Talk quietly. Do not yell, use vulgar or abusive language.
6. Do not throw anything inside the bus or from the bus.
7. Eating is not permitted on the bus. Do not drink on the bus unless the bus driver allows you to do so.
8. If the bus driver allows electronic devices do not play or use without a headset.
9. Do not carry skateboards, glass objects, insects, reptiles, animals, weapons, explosive devices, tobacco, alcohol or drugs on the bus.
10. All cell phones must be off and placed in your backpack or purse.
11. Do not abuse or deface the bus or bus equipment.
12. Keep cases, band instruments and other belongings under control at all times.

Items Banned From Buses

Items that are banned from the bus include glass objects other than eyeglasses; skateboards; tobacco; alcoholic beverages; illegal, dangerous and other no prescribed drugs; weapons; explosive devices and harmful chemicals.

Insects, reptiles and other animals, with the exception of service animals, are also prohibited by the state of Michigan's *Minimum Standards for School Buses and School Bus Drivers*.

Leaving the Bus

1. Stay seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
2. Do not push or crowd others.

Crossing the Road

1. Cross the street only when the driver has indicated the way is safe. Walk 10 steps in front of the bus so the driver can see you. Never cross behind the bus.
2. Keep looking to the right and left as you walk.
3. At an intersection, look in all directions.
4. Do not cross the street at an angle.
5. Walk briskly across the road, but do not run.
6. Never go under the bus to retrieve a dropped item.

Please turn this part in to your child's bus driver if assigned to do so by your child's bus driver

I have read and understand the bus rules of conduct.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____