

Proper conduct by students contributes greatly to the safety of this district's transportation program. Therefore, the following rules of student conduct must be observed:

1. Students must obey the bus driver's directions promptly and courteously.
2. Students must avoid loud talking or unnecessary confusion. Absolute silence is demanded when the driver stops the bus at a railroad crossing.
3. Students must keep hands, arms, and heads inside the bus at all times. Windows may not be opened more than half way.
4. Students must be on time to board the bus. It is recommended students arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.
5. Students approaching bus stops, stay well off the roadway when waiting for the bus, and respect the property at the bus stop.
6. Students must not try to board the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the door is opened.
7. Students must remain seated while on board.
8. If it is necessary for a student to cross the road after leaving the bus, he or she must wait fifteen (15) feet in front of the bus until the "all clear" signal is given by the driver, then cross carefully. In crossing the road to board the bus, the student must wait until the driver gives the "all clear" signal, then carefully cross in front of the bus.
9. Students must board and leave the bus at their established stop, except when they have a request signed by their parent or guardian to do otherwise.
10. When assigned to a bus a student must continue to ride that bus unless reassigned by the respective school building principal.
11. Students must strive to keep the bus clean and neat. No materials are to be thrown from the bus. Eating or drinking are not allowed on a school bus.
12. No smoking or tobacco will be permitted on any bus transporting students to sponsoring functions.
13. No items are to be stored in the aisle. Any large items carried on the bus must be held on the students' laps. Items such as large musical instruments, shop projects, pets, etc., will not be transported with students on the bus.

- 14. A bus driver has the same status and authority as a teacher insofar as discipline is concerned.

*The bus driver will first endeavor to convey to the student the seriousness of the violation of any of the rules of student conduct. Upon continued violation, the driver will refer the student to the principal or designee of his or her respective school. The principal or designee will seek to impress upon the student the need for improvement in bus conduct. The principal or designee, or the district supervisor of transportation, will suspend the student’s bus transportation privileges as follows:*

- 1. First (1st) suspension — three (3) school days;
- 2. Second (2nd) suspension — five (5) school days; and
- 3. Third (3rd) suspension — transportation privileges may be permanently revoked.

Suspension of bus transportation privileges for students with disabilities as defined by Public Law 94-142, and subsequent amendments, and Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, will follow federal guidelines and the provisions of this policy.

*Any vandalism or destruction of school bus property will result in payment for damages and may result in automatic forfeiture of all school bus privileges for one (1) calendar year (365 days from date of occurrence).*

*Nothing will prevent the district from denying transportation to any student in any school bus or other transportation equipment operated by or under the authority of the district, upon good cause given in writing to the parent/guardian of such student.*

*Riding a school bus is not an undeniable right. It is a privilege which each rider is responsible for retaining by maintaining appropriate behavior while loading, riding, and unloading.*



**GRACE JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 148**

**PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE  
DUE PROCESS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense*      *Conference with bus driver and student, blue slip issued. (Parents must sign blue slip before student is allowed back on the bus.)*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense*      *Meeting with Principal, Transportation Supervisor, bus driver, parents and students. Consequence: One week to one month suspension from riding the bus.*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Offense Meeting with Superintendent, Transportation Supervisor, bus driver, parents and student. Consequence: One to three month suspension from riding the bus*

*4<sup>th</sup> Offense Meeting with School Board, Superintendent, Principal, parents, student, Transportation Supervisor and bus driver. Consequence: Exclusion from riding the bus for three months, with option of removing the student from the bus for the remainder of the year.*



**LEGAL REFERENCE:**

*Pupil Transportation, Responsibilities and Operations Manual,*  
Idaho State Department of Education, revised 1996.

**ADOPTED: August 10, 2005**

**AMENDED:**

*\*Language in text set forth in italics is optional.*