



School Bus & Bus Stop Rules

In order to ensure the safe and efficient transportation for all Jordan School District students, the following rules are in effect for all students and routes regardless of the type of transportation used.

According to MN Statute 121A.59 BUS TRANSPORTATION IS A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT, this state law notes that "Transportation by school bus is a privilege not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or for violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus, pursuant to a written school district discipline policy."

Proper registration is required for each student who will be riding the bus to/from school. This is required before the start of each school year. Please click on the "Bus Registration Form" tab for further information on how to register for busing.

• Walking Distances to School

MN Statute 123B.88 dictates student eligibility for student transportation and therefore walking distances. In any district, the board must arrange for the attendance of all pupils living two miles or more from the school, except pupils whose student transportation privileges have been voluntarily surrendered or have been revoked.

• Walking Distance to the Bus Stop

As much as we would like to pick up every student within eyesight of their home or daycare, this is not always feasible. Bus stops are located with the safety of each student in mind, first and foremost. Bus stop locations are reviewed each year and are placed in a centralized location for all the students in that area that are registered to ride the bus. Bus stops are generally located so no student has to walk further than 3 blocks from their home or daycare location. To help make the bus stop as safe as possible, we recommend that a parent or neighborhood volunteer wait with younger students until the bus arrives at the bus stop. Students in rural areas will be picked up at the end of the driveway/township road unless the stop is .5 miles or greater in length, there is a turn-a-round of 120 feet or greater at the top of the driveway, the driveway is a minimum of 12 feet wide, and the driveway is built with a stable material such as class V gravel, asphalt, or concrete. In addition, the driveway must be properly maintained.

Students are required to ride their assigned bus from their assigned bus stop only. If you would like your child to ride the bus to or from a location other than their assigned bus stop, we require a written note in advance to ensure we transport your child to the correct location. Please remember that we transport over 1000 students each day and

we have each student listed at a specific bus stop or address. If a change is required, for any reason, we need proper written authorization from the parent/guardian before the scheduled bus time or your child will be picked up/ dropped off at their scheduled stop only. Please instruct your child to give the note to their bus driver when they are picked up in the morning to ensure the correct busing for the change. In the event of a last minute emergency, you can contact Benjamin Bus Incorporated at 952-492-2410 to request a change for that day only.

All school bus and van routes are scheduled to provide efficient and consistent transportation for all students. If your child is not going to be riding the bus, for any reason, we ask that the parent/guardian call Benjamin Bus Incorporated at 952-492-2410 to notify us of the change. This will ensure we remain on schedule and keep an accurate roster of who is riding the bus.

If removed from the current roster, your child can be added back onto the roster by re-registering them for busing. Allow 3 to 5 days for the change to take effect.

• **School Bus and Bus Stop Rules**

The School District school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the School District's discipline procedures are to be followed. Consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the Transportation Manager, who will subsequently report the behavior to the School District.

• **Rules at the Bus Stop**

1. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
2. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
3. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
4. Use appropriate language.
5. Stay away from the street, road or highway when waiting for the bus. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching the bus.
6. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
7. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus, ten feet, where the driver can see you – never cross from behind the bus. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
8. No fighting, harassment, bullying, intimidation or horseplay.
9. No use or possession of alcohol, tobacco or drugs.
10. Form one line; no pushing or shoving.
11. Wait for drivers signal to come in; come in one at a time.
12. Contraband (defined below) is not allowed in or at school, and is also not allowed in or on the school bus or at the bus stop.
 - a. Such items as fireworks; lighters of any kind; paintballs & paintball guns; squirt guns; knives of any kind; laser pointers/pens; inappropriate media (pictures, magazines, etc.); incense; etc. are considered contraband and are not allowed in school, on school property/grounds, at school activities, and/or on school buses.

- b. If a student inadvertently brings such an item(s) on the bus, the student needs to report directly to the bus driver with the item and turn it over to appropriate staff. If this is done accordingly, no consequences will result.

- **Rules on the Bus**

1. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
2. Sit in your seat facing forward.
3. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
4. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
5. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
6. No fighting, harassment, intimidation or horseplay.
7. Do not throw any objects in the bus or outside the window.
8. No eating, drinking or use/possession of tobacco or drugs.
9. Do not bring any weapon or dangerous objects on the school bus.
10. Do not damage the school bus.
11. Treat everybody with respect.
12. Do not open or tamper with emergency exits.
13. No switching of seats while bus is moving.
14. Open windows only when authorized by the driver.

- **Consequences**

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with co-curricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the School District. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

- **Suspension of Bus Transportation Privileges**

The elementary/middle school consequences will be as follows except as noted in number 2 below:

1st offense written or verbal school warning

2nd offense 1-3 school day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense 3-5 school day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense 5-10 school day suspension from riding the bus & a meeting with parent/guardian

Further offenses will be individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

NOTE: When a student goes 60 calendar days without a report, the student's consequences may start over at the first offense.

The secondary consequences will be as follows except as noted in number 2 below:

1st offense Written or verbal school warning

2nd offense 1-3 day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense 3-5 day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense 5-10 day suspension from riding the bus & a meeting with parent/guardian

5th offense Suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more or less serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school may also result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.