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MONTELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Behavior Expectations for School Bus Riders

To: Parents of School Bus Riders
From: St. Johns Lutheran School/Contractors Operations Manager - Lamers Bus Lines

Parents are informed that school bus transportation is a privilege and not a right. The bus driver is the sole authority on the bus while students are being transported.

Because the behavior of school bus passengers can directly affect their safety and the safety of others, the following regulations apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including field trips and other special trips. School personnel, parents/guardians and students must follow these regulations. Your cooperation in communicating these very important rules to your son or daughter so they understand our expectations of behavior and the need for safety is expected. Students are expected to follow all rules/directions of the bus driver.

Safe, Respectful and Responsible Behavior is Expected.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to review their child's walking route to the bus stop, advising about safety concerns.

A. The bus driver is responsible for controlling the school bus riders. If there is serious and/or continual student misconduct, disciplinary action may be taken by the Contractors Operations Manager and/or School officials.

B. The driver will handle the serious and/or continual acts of misbehavior by reporting them promptly to the Contractors Operations Manager.

C. The Contractors Operations Manager will investigate the report of a serious offense. The Principal and/or Operations Manager shall determine whether misconduct has occurred that requires further disciplinary action.

D. When further disciplinary action is to be taken, the following steps will occur:

1. **First Offense:** The Operations Manager and/or School Principal will inform the parent/guardian about the student's conduct. The student will be given a warning.
2. **Second Offense:** The Operations Manager and/or School Principal will inform the parent/guardian about the student's conduct. The student may be denied bus riding privileges for 1-3 days, beginning the next school day.
3. **Third Offense:** The Operations Manager and/or School Principal will inform the parent/guardian about the student's conduct. The student may be denied bus riding privileges for 1-10 days, beginning the next school day.

4. **Any Subsequent Offense:** The Operations Manager and/or School Principal will inform the parent/guardian about the student's conduct. The student will be suspended from ALL bus riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.
5. **Serious Threats:** If a student's action is a serious threat to the safety of the school bus or other students or motorists, the driver will take immediate action to stop the student's activity. Examples of serious threats are fighting on the school bus, hitting the driver or other riders, opening a knife or throwing an object in or out of the school bus. In all cases, the driver shall notify the Operations Manager immediately and the police may be called. The student may be suspended beginning the next school day without the warning given for the first offense. The parent/guardian will be notified and may request to meet with the Principal and/or Operations Manager to resolve the situation. The Principal, Safety Director, and District Administrator will be notified.

E. Students whose school bus riding privileges have been suspended are required to be in school and parents/guardians must assume responsibility for getting their student to and from school.

F. Parents/guardians and students are to be aware that in any of the above actions, they have the right to appeal to the next administrative level.

G. Students will be assigned to certain seats as a means to control inappropriate behavior.

H. Videotaping equipment may be used on the school bus and disciplinary action may be taken with students based on the video documentation. The student and their parent/guardian may view the segment of the tape related to the incident. In accordance with 8600.C and AG 8330.

FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read and understood the Transportation Handbook Student's Rights and Responsibilities. I agree to assume full responsibility for my child's conduct on said buses.

_____ _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

_____ _____

Signature of Student Date

_____

Print Student's Name

Note: If the student is unable to read these instructions, the parent/guardian signature will indicate that this regulation has been explained to the student.

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