

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Garretson School District has provided a fleet of buses for those who ride to school on them and the Board of Education has employed reliable, responsible, and trained people to drive these buses. The bus driver is an official representative of the school and has full authority to discipline students on the bus. It is the duty of each student who rides the bus to do his/her part to keep the buses in good condition and to abide by the stated rules.

Violation of these rules could mean a reprimand, detention, or cancellation of bus privileges on all buses. If a student is removed from a bus, that student will have to obtain other means of transportation at no expense to the school district.

- A. Students should be on time. If the bus had to wait as much as 1 minute at each stop, it would be 20 to 30 minutes late to school.
- B. The loading of students will be done at regular stops and loading zones only. Students should not stand in the traffic lanes while waiting for the bus or rush to the bus. Students should not approach the bus until it has come to a complete stop.
- C. All students must be seated while the bus is in motion.
- D. Arms and hands must be kept inside the bus.
- E. The aisles must be kept as clear as possible. Traffic through them must not be blocked.
- F. Boisterous or profane language will not be tolerated.
- G. Absolutely no smoking and/or possession of drugs or other controlled substances will be permitted on the bus.
- H. The bus driver is responsible for the safety and welfare of the students in the bus and should never be bothered or distracted in any way which will interfere with responsible, safe driving. Rowdiness, pushing, crowding, shouting, or unnecessary noises will not be permitted.
- I. All school buses must stop for railroad crossings as a matter of safety as well as law. Students must be quiet at this time.
- J. Students will assist the driver in keeping the interior of the bus clean. No food, gum, or drink may be consumed on the bus. The throwing of anything on the bus will not be tolerated. It is against the law to throw anything from a vehicle on the streets or highways.
- K. Students will immediately report to the driver any damage occurring on the bus. The party responsible, or their parents, will be held responsible for the total cost of the property replacement or repair.
- L. Students will not open or close the windows without the permission of the bus driver.
- M. Bus drivers will not discharge riders at any other place than the regular stops without proper **written** authorization from the parent or school official.

- N. If it is necessary to cross the road when leaving the bus, students shall cross at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus in full view of the driver, and cross only after looking to be sure no vehicles are approaching from either direction, and at the signal of the driver.
- O. In the event of road emergency, students are to remain in their seats unless otherwise directed by the bus driver.
- P. Each student is expected to inform the driver if he/she is not returning on the bus. If the student fails to do this, the driver is relieved of responsibility.
- Q. Courtesy is expected at all times, both to the driver and to the other passengers on the bus.
- R. Non-bus students are discouraged from riding on an incidental basis and will not be allowed to do so without prior approval from the administration.

LEGAL REFS.: SDCL 13-32-2; 13-32-4

Adoption date: January 11, 2010