

TRANSPORTATION

- Bus riders will be checked by bus drivers at the bus stop before loading for masks and students will sanitize their hands before entering
- If a student has Covid-like symptoms, they will not be allowed to ride the bus
- ALL riders are required to wear masks
- Students will **NOT BE ALLOWED** to be dropped off at other locations or ride other busses even with a parent note
- All busses will be sanitized at the end of each route
- Each student will be assigned a permanent seat on the bus
- PLEASE fill out the attached STUDENT INFORMATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES, and have your student return to the school office
- Copies of the School Bus Rules are available in the office or on the FRHS website

FALL RIVER JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BUS RULES
FALL RIVER JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT BEHAVIOR IS A SERIOUS SAFETY MATTER AT BUS STOPS AND ON THE BUS. THREE COMMITMENTS WILL BE STRESSED WITH SCHOOL BUS PASSENGERS. THEY ARE SAFETY, ORDER, AND RIGHTS OF EVERYONE ON THE SCHOOL BUS AND NEAR THE BUS AT SCHOOL BUS STOPS. ALL OF THE FOLLOWING RULES PERTAIN TO THESE VALUES. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THE SCHOOL BUS RULES.

THE BUS STOP

1. Students shall ride their designated bus at all times. Students shall load and unload at their designated bus stop.
2. Students are to be at their bus stop five (5) minutes before the bus arrives.
3. There will be no playing, shoving, or scuffling at the bus stop or when walking to or from the bus stop.
4. There shall be no harassment of others on or off the bus.
5. Students will wait ten (10) feet away from the edge of the roadway.
6. When the bus is approaching, the students are to remain still and let the bus come to them. Students will proceed to the bus only after it has stopped and the door has been opened.
7. Leaving and boarding the bus at other than the designated stop, on a temporary basis, shall be cleared using written permission. The note must be: a) written, signed, and dated by the parent, guardian or school staff member and b) signed by the school principal.

SCHOOL LOADING ZONES

1. Students leaving the bus are to walk directly from the bus door to the school.
2. There will be no running or playing in school bus loading zones.
3. Never stand along side, in back of or in front of any school bus. Refer to the diagram of a school bus with the "danger zones" in this handbook.
4. Students are NOT allowed to be in the loading areas in the afternoons to go home until all of the buses have arrived and are parked in the loading zone.

ON THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Students shall be seated promptly.
2. The conduct in the bus shall be the same as in the classroom.
3. Students must be courteous to the driver, fellow passengers and passers-by. Rudeness and disrespect will not be tolerated.
4. No profane language or gestures will be tolerated.
5. No fighting or arguing will be tolerated.
6. Passengers shall remain seated, facing the front of the bus, at all times.
7. No one is permitted to leave their seat while the bus is in motion.
8. Passenger head, arms and bodies shall be kept inside the bus.
9. Nothing is to be thrown from the bus.
10. There is no eating, drinking or gum chewing permitted on the bus.
11. Tobacco in any form is not allowed on the bus.
12. Students shall not be destructive. Students must report damage to the bus. Anyone who is found guilty of vandalism will be billed for the cost of repairs. They will also be denied transportation privileges until payment has been received.
13. The door, emergency exits, aisles, and windows are to be kept free of obstacles.
14. No excessive noise will be tolerated.
15. Passengers are to be silent while the bus is stopped at railroad crossings.
16. Students who must cross a roadway will do so in front of the bus and by the driver's direction.
17. The emergency exits will be used only in an emergency or during evacuation drills.
18. When the bus driver is talking to passengers, no one else shall talk.
19. When the bus is stopped, students are not permitted to change seats without the driver's permission.

ESCORTED BUS STOP INSTRUCTION

Students that have a bus stop where they are unable to board the bus from the right side of the highway must be escorted across by the bus driver. Primary and intermediate students will be escorted by the driver. High school students at stops with elementary students will be escorted. At stops where there are high school students only, students may cross without driver escort, unless the driver determines otherwise.

The bus driver will instruct passengers of the following:

BOARDING: BUS DRIVER ESCORT

1. Stay ten (10) feet away from the road edge.
2. Remain standing at the stop until the bus driver has stopped the bus, activated the red light warning system, shut off the bus engine, entered the highway with the hand-held stop sign after traffic has stopped and directs the student/s to cross and board the bus.
3. Students shall walk promptly across the roadway towards the front of the bus in a single line between the driver and the bus. Students shall be seated quickly.
4. Where high school students may cross unescorted, students shall perform the preceding, except the bus driver will not leave the driver's seat.

UNLOADING: BUS DRIVER ESCORT

1. Student/s will remain seated until the bus driver has opened the door.
2. Student/s will leave the bus in a single line behind the driver.
3. The first student in line will stop the line at the right front corner of the bus.
4. All students will remain there until the bus driver has entered the roadway, verified that there is no danger of approaching traffic, and directs the student/s to walk across the roadway.
5. Once the student/s have crossed the road, they are to continue towards home away from the road.
6. Where high school students may cross unescorted, students shall perform the preceding, except the bus driver will not leave the driver's seat.

STUDENTS SHALL ALWAYS WATCH FOR CARS AT THEIR BUS STOPS. STUDENTS WHO MUST CROSS THE ROADWAY AT THEIR BUS STOP SHALL LOOK UP TO SEE THAT THE RED LIGHTS ARE FLASHING.

WALKING TO AND FROM THE BUS STOP

1. Be alert and watch for vehicles.
2. Do not walk on the roadway.
3. Move off the roadway and face vehicles as they approach.
4. Stay off the roadway.
5. Go directly home from the bus stop.

The following are prohibited on the bus:

1. Flammable substances or devices.
2. Animals or live creatures, except for specially trained guide dogs, signal dogs, or service dogs.
3. Harmful objects. Pencils, pens, and other items with sharp points must be kept in a safe place, e.g., a backpack.
4. Glass, balloons, or anything breakable.
5. Weapons of any kind.
6. Caustic substances or anything containing an acid.
7. Shoes with spikes or cleats are not allowed to be worn.

STOP WHEN RED LIGHTS FLASH!!

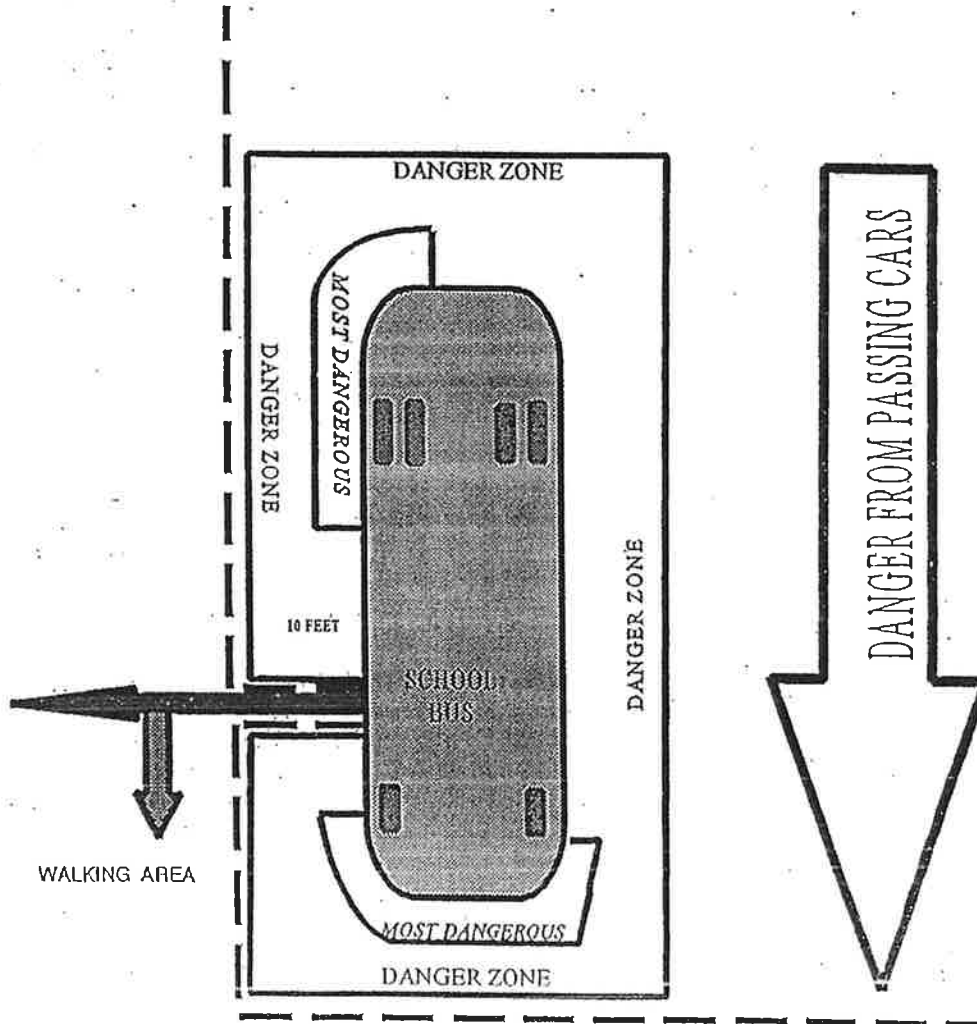
Effective January 1, 1998, almost every bus stop will become a red light stop. While a bus' red lights are flashing, the law says traffic must stop in both directions. Vehicles remain stopped until the flashing red lights go out. The new law, AB 1297, requires the driver to activate the red light in every location where a child is loading or unloading, whether or not the child will be crossing the roadway.

On approach to a school bus stop where pupils are loading or unloading from a school bus, the driver of the school bus shall activate the amber light warning system beginning 200 feet before the bus stop. The driver shall operate the flashing red signal lights and stop signal arm at all times while the school bus is stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading pupils.

The driver will only escort those pupils in preschool, kindergarten, or any grades 1 to 8, inclusive, who need to cross the roadway. The driver shall use the handheld STOP sign while escorting all pupils. High school students may cross the highway unescorted but only after the red lights are flashing.

SCHOOL BUS DANGER ZONES

School buses are large vehicles. There are spaces around the bus where the bus driver in their seat cannot see with straight vision or with the help of their mirrors. These spaces are called blind spots. To help everyone understand the importance of staying out of these areas, we have provided a diagram of the bus "danger zones". If a person was in that space the bus driver could not see them. If the bus driver started to move the bus, that person could be severely and possibly fatally injured. It is not possible to bounce to your feet if a bus bumps you. Please take heed and be aware of where you are around the bus. Please help other children to understand where the safe space is and where the danger zones are.



IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT

- A. Bus drivers will notify principal of infractions.
1. Tickets: Drivers will notify Principals within 24 hours for minor infractions.
 2. Serious safety violations: Drivers will notify Principal by telephone or District radio as soon as possible after the incident. Serious violations may be cause for the permanent loss of riding privileges.
- B. Principals will make a determination on violations after consultation with drivers. Final resolution will be communicated to the driver as soon as possible by phone call or written message (if the driver is not available by phone) so that the driver can carry out the decision of the Principal.
- C. Procedures.
1. High school / junior high school.
 - a. A ticket is issued to the student for the first infraction. Parents are also to be notified by phone or, if no phone is available, by mail.
 - b. Upon second infraction, the student is suspended.
 1. The number of suspension days is determined by the Principal depending on the student's past behavior and the infraction.
 2. Parent contact is required prior to having riding privileges reinstated. The Principal may request attendance of bus driver at conference.
 - c. Upon the third infraction, the student may lose his riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.
 2. Grades 4 – 6.
 - a. Tickets are issued to the student for first and second infractions. Parents are also to be notified of each infraction by phone or, if no phone is available, by mail.
 - b. Upon third infraction, the student is suspended.
 1. The number of suspension days is determined by the Principal depending on the student's past behavior and the infraction.
 2. Parent contact is required prior to having riding privileges reinstated. The Principal may request attendance of bus driver at conference.
 - c. Upon the fourth infraction, the student may lose his riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.
 3. Grades K – 3.
 - a. Tickets are issued to the student for first, second, and third infractions. Parents are also to be notified of each infraction by phone or, if no phone is available, by mail.
 - b. Upon the fourth infraction, the student is suspended.
 1. The number of suspension days is determined by the Principal depending on the student's past behavior and the infraction.
 2. Parent contact is required prior to having riding privileges reinstated. The Principal may request attendance of bus driver at conference.
 - c. Upon the fifth infraction, the student may lose his riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Please return
the last page
Even
if you walk
or have
other transportation.

Fall River Joint Unified School District
STUDENT INFORMATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Where can parents be reached in case of emergency (if not at home)

MOTHER: Name Address Telephone

FATHER: Name Address Telephone

Please give exact location of home residence _____

I authorize permission for my child to ride school district transportation as provided.

Parent Signature

District Policy 5131.1

The governing board may provide bus transportation for students within the District as permitted by law. Such transportation is a privilege and right, however, only insofar as the individual student continually and habitually displays good conduct and behavior while preparing to ride, riding, or after debarking from the bus.

The superintendent of schools is charged with the responsibility of developing and maintaining regulations for transporting children.

Distances Involved in Transportation of pupils at the Various Grade Levels Must be no Shorter than those Specified as Follows.

- For pupils attending kindergarten or grades one, two, or three 3/4 mile
- For all other pupils attending an elementary school 1 mile
- For all students in Grades 7 through 12 attending a four-year junior high school, a high school 2 miles

For further information concerning the transportation of your child, please contact the Transportation Department: 336-5171 – School Bus Garage in McArthur.

(TRANSPORTATION USE ONLY)

ROUTE: _____

DESIGNATE BUS STOP: _____

TIME: _____ A.M. _____ P.M.