

Student Conduct on School Buses

Students whose conduct on a school bus is unsatisfactory will be denied the use of his/her transportation by the building principal or his/her designee as per New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 189:9-a.

In some cases suspension from school bus transportation will be immediate following proper notification to the parents. Physical violence, intimidation, harassment, violations of the "Drug-free School Zone" (RSA 193-B) and/or the "Safe School Zones" (RSA 193-D) are examples of conduct that will result in immediate suspension.

Otherwise, the first offense will generally result in a written warning and could be accompanied by a short term bus suspension and/or in-school suspension and/or detention. The first suspension will not exceed 5 school days. The second suspension will not exceed 10 school days. If a third suspension is necessary, the Superintendent of Schools will recommend to the School Board suspension of the student's privileges for the remainder of the school year. The principal of the school will notify the parents of the student who is dismissed from bus transportation prior to dismissal. Further, a letter shall be sent to the parents within 24 hours of the dismissal. Said letter shall contain copies of RSA 189:9A and 193:7. Said letter should also contain the reasons for the bus dismissal and the length of time of the dismissal. In the event of a third offense, the parent shall be notified as to the date, time and place that the School Board would act upon the Superintendent's recommendation for suspension. When a pupil has been denied the right to ride a school bus for disciplinary reasons, the parent or guardian of that pupil has a right of appeal within 10 days of suspension to the authority that suspended this pupil's right. Until the appeal is heard, or if the suspension of pupil's right to ride the school bus is upheld, it shall be the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide transportation to and from school for that pupil for the period of the suspension.

If a child is absent from school attendance for more than 5 days, due to his or her dismissal/suspension from bus transportation, the Superintendent shall proceed to take legal action against the parent of said child under the provisions of RSA 189:9A and 193:7.

It shall be the responsibility of the bus driver to report any infractions for appropriate action to the principal or his/her designee.

The following list should not be interpreted to be all inclusive, but merely serve as examples of unacceptable behavior:

1. Use, distribution or possession of tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, firearms and/or other weapons
2. Standing or changing seat while the bus is in motion
3. Any act of vandalism
4. Profanity or vulgar remarks or gestures
5. Disobedience or abusive remarks or actions to the bus driver
6. Causing loud noises or disturbances that could distract the bus driver's attention from the road
7. Fighting or pushing upon entering the bus, while on the bus, or when leaving the bus
8. Throwing objects of any kind on the bus or from the bus
9. Harassment
10. Any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the driver and/or school administration

The Student Conduct on School Buses policy shall be printed and distributed to all parents/guardians. Policy JICC must be signed and returned to the office of the principal as proof that the parent/guardian reviewed the District's school bus transportation student conduct policy.

All Derry School District buses will be monitored by surveillance cameras for the safety and protection of those being transported. Cameras will be used to support disciplinary actions as outlined above.

Legal References: RSA 1896, RSA 1896-b, RSA 189:7, RSA 189:8, RSA 189:9, RSA 189:9-a