

Dear Parents:

Please read the following Standard of Conduct for Pupils Riding School Buses with your child. It is important that you and your child understand the standards of conduct for students riding Hillsborough County Public Schools' buses.

Sign this form and return to the school, where it will be retained on file.

Sincerely,

Principal

GENERAL

Daily bus service will be provided for all pupils living in excess of two miles from school. Pupils, who are physically handicapped or if walking would subject them to hazardous walking conditions (as defined by the State and the School Board), will be provided transportation regardless of the distance.

STANDARDS

Acceptable classroom standards of conduct are expected of bus passengers. Drivers shall ensure that pupils observe regulations at all times.

DISCIPLINE

A driver experiencing discipline problems with a student will notify the school principal by submitting a written referral describing the discipline problem. The principal may suspend the student's bus privileges. During a period of suspension, the School Board shall not be responsible for transporting the pupil to school.

STUDENT CONDUCT

1. Recognize that the bus driver is the authority on the bus; obey and be courteous to the driver and to fellow students. Follow the directions of safety patrols that are assigned to assist the bus driver.
2. Plan to leave home each day so that you will arrive at your bus stop on time.
3. When walking where there are no sidewalks, face the traffic, and walk on the shoulder of the road.
4. Stand away from the highway at the bus stop.
5. Never run alongside a moving bus.
6. Wait until the bus and other traffic comes to a full stop and the bus door is opened before moving toward the bus. Cross in front of the bus at a distance of 10' to 12' feet.

7. Use the handrail when boarding the bus.
8. Go directly to your assigned seat and remain seated unless otherwise directed by the driver.
9. Do not carry onto the bus any glass items, reptiles, insects, pets, weapons or sharp instruments.
10. Keep the aisles clear at all times.
11. Hold books and other belongings firmly on your lap.
12. Large or heavy articles that cannot be held on your lap should be transported to school by your parents; this includes large band instruments.
13. Normal classroom behavior is expected while riding the bus.
14. Observe complete silence at all railroad crossings.
15. Do not throw objects about the bus or from a window. Keep arms and head inside the bus at all times.
16. Do not tamper with the emergency doors.
17. No eating, drinking, smoking, yelling, or fighting is allowed on the bus.
18. Leave the bus **ONLY** at your designated stop.
19. Take all your belongings off the bus each day. Transportation is not responsible for articles left on school buses.
20. Report any illness or injury sustained on or around the bus immediately to the driver.

going to and from the bus stop. A responsible person must accompany Exceptional Education students at their bus stop both in the morning and afternoon.

3. Parents should not expect to have conferences with the school bus driver at the bus stop. If necessary, conferences can be arranged through the school and the Transportation Department.
4. Parents should make a reasonable effort to understand and cooperate with those responsible for pupil transportation, and accept responsibility for the proper conduct of their children.
5. Parents are to refrain from boarding school buses and/or attempting conferences with drivers at bus stops.
6. Parents may access their children only at designated bus stops unless the driver has authorization for a change approved by the school administrator.

FOR PARENT OR GUARDIAN

I have read and helped my child to understand the **Standards of Conduct for Pupils Riding School Buses**.

Signature: Parent or Guardian

Date:

Child's Name (printed):

School Child Attends:

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL AFTER SIGNING.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Parents are encouraged to walk with students to and from bus stops and to meet their children at the bus stop in the afternoon.
2. Parents are responsible for their children's safety when they are