

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Safety in our community and in schools is a major concern of parents, students, and school officials.

School bus safety is a significant part of that concern. Therefore, the Office of Transportation has developed a series of safety tips and school bus rules to ensure the effective operation of the Columbus City School buses and the maximum safety for our children.

We suggest that parents and students read this together, keep it for future reference, or even post the rules section on a bulletin board or in an appropriate location as a reminder.

The following safety tips and regulations may provide good discussion topics also — with the hope that knowing and understanding them will result in safety for all.

School Bus Safety Rules

1. Student must ride assigned bus. No unauthorized passengers are allowed.
2. Students must obey bus driver's instructions at all times.
3. School buses are not permitted to stop longer than necessary to pick up students. Therefore, school buses cannot wait for tardy students.
4. Get on and off at assigned stop only.
5. Transporting of animals, pets, or glass containers on bus is not allowed.
6. Changing from seat to seat while the bus is in motion is not permitted.
7. Excessive noise, loud talking or laughter is not allowed.
8. No noise or talking at railroad crossings and other danger points.
9. Students may not extend any part of their bodies through the bus windows.
10. Spitting or throwing any object from windows is not allowed.
11. Smoking, eating, drinking, and littering are not allowed.
12. Students may not use profane language.
13. Students must observe rules for crossing the street when entering or exiting the bus.
14. Parents are responsible for any damage to the bus caused by their children.
15. Any conduct which could endanger any passenger or driver or which could result in damage to the vehicle is not allowed.
16. The carrying of weapons by bus passengers is not permitted.



Bus Procedures

- All drivers, Intervention Aides and Childcare Attendants will be required to wear masks while on a school bus.
- Families will be expected to conduct a Health Assessment of their children before leaving their homes for school.
- Students will be required to wear masks while at bus stops and on school buses.
- Social Distancing, when possible, will be implemented on all Columbus City School buses.
- Children will practice social distancing at their bus stops.
- Children will enter the bus through the regular entry door and be seated from the rear of the bus to the front. Children will exit the bus through the main door, from the front seat to the rear seat.
- The bus will contain a bottle of hand sanitizer and a spray pump bottle containing disinfectant.
- Children will be provided 1 “squirt” of hand sanitizer when boarding a bus.
- Drivers will create and maintain a seating chart for students who ride their buses. This seating chart will be used when students board their buses.
- Every bus will be disinfected by the bus driver after each run. Driver will spray disinfectant on common touch points (hand rails, seats, etc.).
- Each bus will be disinfected at the Bus Compound after its morning and afternoon routes have been completed.

Bus Stop Procedures

- Parents conduct a health assessment before students leave the house
- Students must wear masks and practice social distancing
- Students must sanitize their hands when boarding bus.
- Student will board the bus at the front door and walk to the back of the bus to start seating.
- Students may not change or move between seats.
- Students will unload at the school starting with the front seat to the last.
- Boarding the bus at the school in the PM, students stand in a designated place of safety observing social distancing recommendations.
- Students loading buses in the PM should load from the front door and start with the last seat, assuming routing is in reverse order from the AM. Ex: first student off the bus should sit in the first seat, last student off of the route should be seated in the last seat on the bus. Students should be lined up in order of route drop off when boarding so as not to pass each other.
- Drivers should designate the place of safety for students to stand when unloading at home stop.
- Students need to continue practicing social distancing at designated place of safety when unloading at home stop.

Fleet

- Assure that all buses are disinfected prior to the reopening of school.
- Assure that all school buses pass Ohio State Highway Patrol Inspections prior to the reopening of school.