



## **Gainesville ISD Transportation Rules**

**2019-2020**

School-Sponsored Trips Students who participate in school-sponsored trips are required to use transportation provided by the school to and from the event. The principal, however, may make an exception if the parent makes a written request that the student be released to the parent or to another adult designated by the parent.

The District makes school bus transportation available to all students. This service is provided at no cost to students. Bus routes and any subsequent changes are posted at school. Further information may be obtained by calling Transportation, at 1000 CR 3092(Radio Hill Road), (940) 665-1431.

### **Bus Rules**

It is a PRIVILEGE to ride the school bus. Students who abide by the rules will be afforded dependable and safe transportation to and from school. Students who do not comply with the rules will lose their privilege to ride the bus.

The GOAL of the GISD transportation department is to safely transport students to and from school each day.

### **STUDENTS MUST FOLLOW THESE RULES**

- The bus driver is in total charge of the students on their bus. Students must obey and cooperate fully with the driver. The driver has the authority to assign seats.
- Students are expected to be courteous to the driver and other students on the bus.
- The use of profane or degrading language as well as improper hand gestures will not be tolerated.
- There shall be NO EATING or DRINKING on the bus at any time. Food should not be sent for students to eat while riding the bus.
- Local and state law prohibits the use of any kind of tobacco on school buses or school property. This includes E-Cigs.
- Students must remain in their seats and facing forward while the bus is in motion. Yelling or excessive loud talking is distracting to the driver and will not be allowed. Moving about while the bus is in motion is forbidden.

- Do not damage or destroy school or personal property. Students who willfully damage or destroy school property will be held accountable. Students are asked to help keep the bus clean.
- The aisle of the bus must be free of books, backpacks, feet or anything that could obstruct a passenger walking down the aisle.
- Pushing, tripping, wrestling, horseplay or slapping will not be tolerated on the bus or at the bus stop.
- It is illegal to throw anything from the window of a school bus. Throwing anything inside the bus will not be tolerated.
- Students must be at the designated bus stop on time. All students should be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before arrival of the bus. The bus can NOT wait or deviate from the regular schedule.
- Students who fail to follow the rules are subject to the discipline plan for bus students.

**All PM Kindergarten students must be met at their stop by a parent or an approved adult or approved sibling.**

#### **DISCIPLINE PLAN FOR BUS STUDENTS**

##### **First Offense:**

A verbal warning will be made to students who violate bus rules. The driver will document such warnings they will be kept on file at the transportation department. If warnings are not heeded the driver will file a written report describing the student's behavior.

##### **First Report:**

**REPORT FILED** - The driver shall file a discipline report describing the improper behavior of the bus student. Reports are submitted to the Director of transportation. A copy of the report will go to the campus administrator who deals with student discipline for immediate action. The campus administrator shall conference the student about his/her reported misconduct. Gainesville ISD Bus Rules. Parents are to be contacted by the administrator who will inform them that their child will be removed from the bus for a period of not less than three-days (3) if they receive a second misconduct report.

**ALL actions are to be fully documented.**

**Second Report:** Three-Day (3) Removal from the bus - The driver shall follow the same procedure as before. The campus administrator shall inform the student and the parents of the three-day (3) removal from the bus. Suspension from the bus will begin the following school day.

**ALL actions are to be fully documented.**

**Third Report:** Ten-Day (10) Removal from the bus -The driver shall follow the same procedure as before. The campus administrator shall inform the student and the parents of the ten-day (10) removal from the bus. Suspension from the bus will begin the following day.

**ALL actions are to be fully documented.**

**Fourth Report:** Twenty-Day (20) Removal from the bus. The driver shall follow the same procedure as before. The campus administrator shall inform the student and parents of the twenty-day (20) removal from the bus. The suspension from riding the bus will begin the following day.

**ALL actions shall be fully documented.**

**Fifth Report:** Long-Term Removal - If a student's inappropriate behavior persists, he/she will be removed indefinitely from riding the bus. The action(s) of the student will be reviewed and the director of transportation, school administrator and the assistant superintendent will determine the suspension time. Parental grievances shall be made in the following order: 1. Director of Transportation 2. Assistant Superintendent

**Severe Action: Immediate Removal from the bus.**

When a student's behavior is severe, he/she shall be removed from the bus immediately. The severity of the behavior will determine the removal time from the bus, which will be decided by the Director of Transportation and the Assistant Superintendent.

**The following behaviors are classified as severe:**

1. Physical assault on the driver or another student.
2. Possession of an illegal weapon.
3. Verbal assault on driver or other students.
4. Terroristic threats toward students, driver, other parents or the school district.
5. Fighting is an automatic three-day (3) removal from the bus. The bus driver shall make the distinction between fighting and the assault of a student by another. A second fight will automatically result in a long-term suspension.

**\*VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS\***

The Transportation Department of the Gainesville Independent School District first installed video surveillance units in route buses in **January, 2002**. The purpose of the system is to discourage inappropriate behavior by students who are transported on the district's buses. The surveillance system will be used as official documentation in administering disciplinary actions. Only authorized school personnel (Director of transportation, transportation coordinator, campus Principal, Assistant principal, and assistant Superintendent) will initially first view the video tapes of students violating stated rules. (Parents cannot view videos due to privacy issues.) After it has been determined that a student did indeed violate stated rules, regular disciplinary action, as stated in the Student Code of Conduct, will be enforced. Video tapes of rule violations will be maintained by the director of transportation and remain on file for the remainder of the school year.