



DOUGHERTY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
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CARLOS L. KEITH, SR.
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

SALLY WHATLEY, PH.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

January 29, 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Dougherty County School System is committed to the safety and well-being of all students when they are transported to and from school. Riding the bus is a privilege that cannot be abused. To ensure the safety of all students on our buses, we have rules that must be observed, and as an extra safety measure, we now have cameras on our buses. The cameras will enable the Transportation Department to monitor and record the behavior and verbal exchanges of all students, bus drivers, and any other individuals on or near the buses. Please understand that this equipment has been installed on the buses for the safety of our students. We ask for your cooperation in ensuring that your child observes all rules when he/she is transported to and from school.

In the event that the rules are violated, the student(s) will face consequences, and may be removed from the bus. Additionally, the Dougherty County School System Police Department will charge the most serious violators. Attached is a copy of the rules for bus behavior and the consequences for misbehavior.

Thank you, in advance, for your support. The safety of your child and all of our students is critical.

Sincerely,

Carlos Keith
Deputy Superintendent

Sally Whatley, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Attachment

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BUS INCIDENT REPORT

NON-SEVERE REPORTS

Some Examples of Non-Severe Reports

Excessive or loud talking, eating and drinking on bus, not following instructions, throwing objects, and horseplay.

Administrator's Consequences

- 1st Report:** Principal will counsel and warn student. Parents will be notified by phone, if possible, and a copy of the Bus Incident Report will be sent home to them.
- 2nd Report:** Principal places student on transportation probation. Parents will be notified by phone, if possible, and by a copy of the Bus Incident Report.
- 3rd Report:** One (1) day bus suspension and parents/guardians must return with student for conference before student resumes riding the bus. Student will not be allowed to resume riding bus until an administrator notifies bus driver that conference has been held.
- 4th Report:** Three (3) days bus suspension. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**
- 5th Report:** Five (5) days bus suspension. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**
- 6th Report:** Ten (10) days bus suspension. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**
- Subsequent Reports:** Thirty (30) days bus suspension. If student does not attend school, referral will be made to School Social Workers/DFACS. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**

SEVERE CLAUSE REPORTS

Some Examples of Severe Clause Reports

Tampering with cameras/bus equipment, cursing, sexual misconduct, bullying/instigating fights, gang activity, weapons possession, fighting, alcohol/drug possession or consumption, terroristic threats, or other offenses which could result in referral to the school system discipline tribunal will result in a suspension from the bus until the tribunal meets.

- 1st Report:** Five (5) days bus suspension. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**
- 2nd Report:** Ten (10) days bus suspension. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**
- 3rd Report and Subsequent Reports:** Thirty (30) days bus suspension or referral to school system discipline tribunal. **(Parents/Guardians must be notified.)**

If a parent/guardian has been notified about a bus suspension and continues to send the student to the bus stop, the school may involve the Dougherty County School System's Police Department. Before involving the police department, verify that the parent/guardian has been notified.