

Elementary School



Cobb County School District Transportation Department Safe Rider Program

Abajo se encuentra la descripción del programa de seguridad en el camión también se encuentra en español a <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/47135/safe-rider-program-forms>

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The safety of your child(ren) is our number one priority and “The Safe Rider Program” is a student management program which teaches proper school bus safety. The program includes a defined and graduated discipline plan with the core of the program promoting personal accountability and empowering students to correct their unsafe behavior. This allows safe transportation for all passengers. Also, students may receive additional safety training through the S.O.A.R. Program (Safe, Orderly, And Respectful).

The Safe Rider Program has proven successful resulting in a 55 percent reduction rate in bus-related discipline district-wide. This assists the driver in less distractions and a safer bus ride.

How the Program Works

The program promotes instant accountability for unsafe behavior as shown below.

The program also includes a defined and graduated discipline plan. The concept does not stop here. We have also developed a Safe Rider Class that employs several different ways of empowering the student to correct unsafe behavior. Some of these techniques include role play, videos and class work which will be scheduled to not interfere with the student’s academic work.

Unsafe Behavior on the Ride Home:

- If unsafe behavior occurs before the bus leaves the school, the student will be provided with two options: (1) Correct the behavior and continue home (behavior documented), or (2) Be removed from the bus and stay at the school with staff supervision until a parent or guardian can pick up the student (behavior documented).
- If unsafe behavior occurs after the bus leaves the school, the driver will contact their field coordinator. The field coordinator will assess the situation and if necessary, the field coordinator will remove the student from the bus to return the student to school to remain under staff supervision until a parent or guardian can pick the student up.
- If either of the above instances occurs, the graduated discipline plan will be in effect. CCSD J-Policies for students supersedes the Safe Rider Program.
- Alternate arrangements must be pre-approved by the school using a completed CCSD Bus Pass presented to the driver before boarding the bus. Riders will not be allowed if the bus is at capacity or the student has poor bus behavior.

We need your partnership to continue making Cobb’s buses safer and a more enjoyable part of the student’s day. **Please review this entire document and educate your child(ren) regarding the expectations of riding the school bus.**

Please sign and return pages 3 and 4 to your driver within 5 days to continue your bus riding privilege.

Students 8 years old and younger need Page 4 signed and submitted for bus rider privileges.

We expect students to – Be Safe – Be Responsible – Be Respectful – Be Peaceful!

Thank you for your support.

Safe Rider Behavior Policies and Regulations

Students shall follow all Safe Rider Policies and Regulations while on the school bus and at the bus stop.

The school bus is an extension of the classroom and riding the bus is a privilege.

CCSD and the Transportation Department’s established rules include, but are not limited, to the following:

EXPECTATIONS	ON THE BUS	LOADING AND UNLOADING
“BE SAFE”	Stay seated – back to back and bottom to bottom. Backpack on your lap. Body parts and objects must remain inside the bus. Always walk and use the handrail. Follow driver’s instructions the FIRST time.	Remain 6 giant steps away from the bus when waiting at the bus stop. Wait for driver’s signal before crossing the street/loading bus. Put electronics away. Be out of your car when waiting for the bus.
“BE RESPONSIBLE”	Place all items in backpack and out of the aisle. Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus for safety and to keep the bus clean. Report any inappropriate or illegal behaviors to the driver. Stay quiet at railroad crossings.	Get on and off the bus at your assigned stop. Arrive 5 minutes early to your assigned bus stop. When boarding the bus, go directly to your assigned seat. When exiting the bus, go directly to your home.
“BE RESPECTFUL”	Keep all body parts and other objects to yourself. Follow driver’s instruction the FIRST time. Respect the bus by not marking or poking holes in seats. Taking photos or videos is not allowed.	Keep the bus stop clean. Board the bus one-at-a-time. Respect others around you, including other’s property.
“BE PEACEFUL”	Refrain from fighting, horseplay, and pretend fighting. Speak in a calm, soft voice and refrain from inappropriate gestures and language, threats, and bullying. Use ear buds with electronics.	Wait quietly and orderly for the bus. Keep your body parts and other objects to yourself. Follow the Golden Rule – Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.

Visit www.cobbk12.org for a full listing of Safe Rider Policies and Regulations.

Graduated Discipline Plan (Elementary School):

CCSD Student J-Policies take precedence over SRP

- ◆ **1st Offense** – Driver Student Conference & Parent Contacted (Courtesy Notice.)
- ◆ **2nd Offense** – Driver Student Conference & Parent Contacted. (Courtesy Notice.) Student on probation and re-assigned toward the front of Bus for 1 week.
- ◆ **3rd Offense** – Referral submitted, **1 Day Bus Suspension**. Conference with student, parent notified. Upon return, student placed on probation and re-assigned toward the front of the Bus for 1 week.
- ◆ **4th Offense** – Referral submitted, **3 Day Bus Suspension**. Conference with student, parent notified. Upon return student placed on probation and re-assigned toward the front of the Bus for 2 weeks. Safe Rider Class and Behavior Contract
- ◆ **5th Offense** - Referral submitted, **5 Day Bus Suspension**. Conference with Parent, Student, Transportation Staff and School Administrator to discuss bus suspension the remainder of the year and placed on probation and re-assigned toward the front of the bus for the remainder of the year.
- ◆ **6th Offense** - Bus Suspension for remainder of the school year.

Any Behavior that is considered disruptive or unsafe by the school bus driver will be handled through the use of “**The Safe Rider Program.**”

Serious Offenses are administered through Student J-Policies.

Steps may be skipped if a student violates a rule while on assigned seat or probation.

Elementary School Safe Rider Contract / Emergency Form Cobb County School District Transportation Department

If your student is going to take advantage of their bus riding privilege, please legibly complete and sign this *Safe Rider Contract/Emergency Form*. Return to your bus driver within 5 days to continue receiving his/her bus rider privilege. Incomplete forms could result in loss of bus riding privilege.

THIS INFORMATION IS REQUIRED FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION. THANK YOU! PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH RIDER.
Esta información es requerida para transporte en el camión. ¡Gracias! Por favor use una forma para cada estudiante.

(PLEASE PRINT ALL, Por favor imprima)

STUDENT's LAST NAME Apellido de Estudiante	FIRST NAME Primer Nombre	MI Segundo	DATE OF BIRTH Fecha de Nacimiento Del estudiante	M/F
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SCHOOL YOUR CHILD ATTENDS Escuela	GRADE Grado	BUS # / LANE # Numero del Camión
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HOME ADDRESS, (ie. Apt or Street Name and number) Domicilio, (#de Apartamento)	SUBDIVISION/APT COMPLEX Nombre Del Vecino u Apartamento
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PARENT/GUARDIAN Nombre de padres o guardián	RELATIONSHIP Relación al estudiante	HOME PHONE # Teléfono de Casa	CELL PHONE # Teléfono de Emergencia
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E-MAIL ADDRESS Dirección de correo electrónico

PARENT/GUARDIAN Nombre de padres o guardián	RELATIONSHIP Relación al estudiante	HOME PHONE # Teléfono de Casa	CELL PHONE # Teléfono de Emergencia
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E-MAIL ADDRESS Dirección de correo electrónico

Additional Information, i.e. Medical Condition, Allergies or Special Instructions:

We have read the *Safe Rider Program Policies and Regulations*. We understand and agree to abide by all bus safety rules and failure to comply may result in bus suspension and loss of riding privilege if not corrected.

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Please Print)	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE	TODAY'S DATE
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STUDENT NAME (Please Print)	STUDENT'S SIGNATURE	TODAY'S DATE
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Alternate emergency contact other than Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Authorized Adult other than Parent(s) (PRINT)	Home Phone	Cell Phone
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Please return this form to your Bus Driver.
Por favor, completa y retorna este contrato a el que Maneja el Camión.

Back of form must also be completed before returning



STUDENT'S NAME

BUS NUMBER

SCHOOL YEAR

Students 8 yrs. and Younger – Use of Yellow Tags

Yellow Tags allows Transportation Staff to immediately identify 8 years and younger riders. Tag must remain attached to book bag, and do not write on the tag.

Please print and complete legibly (list in order of priority):

Adults other than parent/guardian that are authorized to receive my 8 years old and younger child at the designated bus stop, or may be contacted in case of an emergency: *(Photo ID may be required.)*

Authorized Adult other than Parent(s) (PRINT)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Authorized Adult other than Parent(s) (PRINT)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Georgia's DFCS Guidelines for Leaving a Child without Adult Supervision: (<http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov>)

- Children 8 years old and younger should never be left alone, even for short periods of time.
- Children between the ages of 9 and 12, based on level of maturity, can be left home alone for brief periods of time.
- Children 13 and older can generally be left as babysitters, with the exception of children in foster care. It is not recommended, however, that 13 year olds baby sit infants, small children and children that require special attention due to medical conditions.

Admin Rule B,5.e. (Approved February 2010)

“Students 8 years old and younger may be brought back to their school in the afternoon if a parent, guardian, or parent/guardian designee is not present at the bus stop to receive them or if they otherwise appear to have no appropriate supervision. This is in accordance with Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS) Guidelines for safety and supervision of children Form JL-1[DFCS Protocol].”

Cobb County Procedure:

- Drivers must be able to see the adult or designee so that proper identification can be made. **This means that you have to be physically at the stop and out of your car. (Photo Id may be required.)**
- Please be standing at the bus stop **five minutes prior** to the bus arrival time and note that the driver cannot release students other than at their designated bus stop.
- If a parent or designated adult of an 8 year old and younger child is not at the stop OR we do not have signed permission to release the child without an adult, the **child will be returned to school.**
- **All requests for a waiver from any requirements contained in the Safe Rider Contract must be submitted in writing to the Transportation Department. The Transportation Department will consider any extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.**

Students 8 yrs. and Younger – Authorization for student to exit bus without supervision.

I am further requesting that my 8 years old or younger child, _____, be allowed to exit the bus at their designated bus stop without a parent/guardian, sibling or an authorized adult at the bus stop.

I understand that this request goes against DFCS recommended guidelines and hereby absolve CCSD personnel of any and all responsibility for my child once they exit the bus.

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Please Print)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

TODAY'S DATE

● A BLACK DOT on the yellow tag indicates authorization for student to exit bus without supervision and will be applied by authorized school or transportation personnel. "Exit w/Sib" will be written on the tag to exit the bus with an older sibling.

Students 8 yrs. and Younger – Authorization for student to exit bus with older sibling.

I authorize my 8 years old or younger child to be allowed to exit the bus at their designated stop with his/her older sibling(s) to walk home, where appropriate supervision is provided.

Name of sibling(s)

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Please Print)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

TODAY'S DATE