

Middle/High 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.

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.

However, we need your partnership as we move forward in making Cobb’s buses safer and a more enjoyable part of the student’s day. **Please review this entire document and educate your child regarding the expectations of riding the school bus. Please sign and return pages 3 and 4 to your driver as soon as possible.**

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. Also the CCSD J-Policies for students supersedes the Safe Rider Program.

We need your partnership as we move forward in making Cobb’s buses safer and a more enjoyable part of the student’s day. Please review the ***Safe Rider Policies and Regulations*** with your child(ren). Please complete and sign the ***Safe Rider Contract / Emergency Form*** with your child and return to your bus driver within 5 days to continue bus rider privilege to ensure your child’s assigned seat.

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:

1. Students must show respect for the school bus driver, follow their instructions and "**The Safe Rider Program.**"
2. All students shall comply with reasonable directives of any CCSD Employee. Failure to do so is considered an act of insubordination.
3. Student shall identify one's self upon request of any Cobb County School District Employee.
4. Students must be standing in an orderly manner at the bus stop **AT LEAST FIVE (5) MINUTES** prior to the scheduled pick-up time. Do not approach the bus until the doors are open.
5. Students must wait for instructions (hand signals or otherwise) from the school bus driver every time when crossing the street to board or when exiting the bus. Students must be able to maintain eye contact with the driver and cross in full view. Students should **NEVER** cross behind the bus.
6. At dismissal time, students must board the bus as soon as school is released; do not loiter in the courtyard and/or on the sidewalk. Once on the bus, the student will only be allowed to depart the bus with the approval of the administrator or Transportation designee.
7. Students must remain silent and still at all railroad crossings until the school bus crosses the railroad tracks completely.
8. Students must remain seated properly in the seat at all times unless otherwise directed by the school bus driver. (BACK to BACK – BOTTOM to BOTTOM) Elementary and Middle school students will be assigned a seat. (*High School will be at driver's discretion.*)
9. Unnecessary noise is prohibited. Students must talk at a low level - Loud voices or devices can interfere with the safe operation of the school bus.
10. Students shall not use any electronic devices during the operation of a school bus, including but not limited to: cell phones; pagers; audible radios, tape players, and compact disc players without headphones; or any other electronic device that may interfere with the bus' communication equipment or the driver's operation of the school bus. Students may not use any electronic device to video or audio record while on school provided transportation vehicle. Also, electronic devices are not to be in use while exiting or boarding the bus.
11. Due to allergic reactions and the possibility of choking - food, gum, and/or drinks are not to be consumed or opened on the school bus. **
12. Students shall follow CCSD dress code. Students shall not change clothes on regular route bus to or from school.
13. Name calling, harassment, intimidation, touching, threats, and bullying are prohibited on the school bus.
14. Obscene language and gestures are prohibited on the school bus.
15. Fighting, pretend fighting, roughhousing, or horseplay is not permitted.
16. Objects are not to be thrown on, in, out, at, or near the school bus.
17. Destruction or defacing any part of the school bus is prohibited. Replacement cost will be at parent's/guardian's expense.
18. Emergency doors, windows, roof hatches, and other equipment are to be used only at the direction of the school bus driver.
19. Students must keep all body parts inside the school bus at all times.
20. Students shall not use mirrors, lasers, flashing lights, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective surfaces/devices as it may interfere with the operation of the school bus.
21. Weapons (*or objects that look like and/or could be used as weapons*) are not permitted at bus stops, on school buses, or on school grounds.
22. Tobacco, illegal drugs, and/or alcohol are not permitted at bus stops, on school buses, or on school grounds.
23. Objectionable and/or dangerous items are not allowed on the school bus. Examples; glass items, lighters/matches, animals, balloons, flowers/plants, skateboards, perfume/cologne, aerosol cans, plastic bags, insects, straight or safety pins, sharp objects, toys or objects that cannot easily fit in their book bags, or projects that cannot fit on the student's lap or any other item of a questionable nature that might present a safety hazard.
24. Band instruments, sporting equipment, and school projects can be transported only if there is enough space for all students' seating requirements. No item shall block the emergency exit or aisle at any time.
25. Students must board and exit the school bus at their designated bus stop **ONLY**. Alternate arrangements must be pre-approved by the school using a completed CCSD Bus Pass. Parents/Guardian must submit a transportation bus stop/bus change in writing in advance to the school. The CCSD Bus Pass must be given to the school bus driver when boarding the school bus. (**A Bus Pass can be denied if the school bus is at capacity, if the student has a history of bus behavior offenses or becomes an offender.**)

** (*Exception: Rule #11 - in extreme heat approval by school/transportation water can be consumed in a closed container with a screwed on lid*)

Graduated Discipline Plan (Middle/High School):

CCSD Student J-Policies take precedence over SRP

- ♦ **1st Offense** – Driver Student Conference & Parent Contacted (Courtesy Notice.) Student on probation and re-assigned toward the front of Bus for 1 week.
- ♦ **2nd Offense** – Driver Student Conference & Parent Contacted. (Courtesy Notice.) Student on probation and re-assigned toward the front of Bus for 2 weeks.
- ♦ **3rd Offense** – Referral submitted, **3 Days or 6 Afternoons Bus Suspension**. Upon return student placed on probation and re-assigned toward the front of Bus for 1 week. *Safe Rider Class and Behavior Contract Required.
- ♦ **4th Offense** – Referral submitted, **5 Days or 10 Afternoons Bus Suspension**. Conference required before returning to the school bus. Upon return student placed on probation and re-assigned toward the front of Bus for 1 week. Safe Rider Class and Behavior Contract Required
- ♦ **5th Offense** – Referral submitted, Transportation Director recommends Bus suspension for the remainder of the 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."

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

Middle/High School



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

If your student is going to take advantage of their bus riding privilege, please complete legibly, and sign the *Safe Rider Contract / Emergency Form* with your child, then return to your bus driver within 5 days to continue bus rider privilege and receive your child's assigned seat.

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

STUDENT'S LAST NAME, (PLEASE PRINT ALL) Apellido de Estudiante, (Por favor imprima)	FIRST NAME Primer Nombre	MIDDLE Segundo	MALE OR FEMALE Chico/Chica
HOME ADDRESS, (ie. Apt or Street Name and number) Domicilio, (#de Apartamento)			SUBDIVISION/APT COMPLEX Nombre Del Vecino u Apartamento
PARENT/GUARDIAN Nombre de padres o guardián	RELATIONSHIP Relación al estudiante	1 st CONTACT PHONE # Teléfono de Casa	2 nd CONTACT PHONE # Teléfono de Emergencia
E-MAIL ADDRESS Dirección de correo electrónico			SCHOOL YEAR
SCHOOL YOUR CHILD ATTENDS Escuela	GRADE Grado	DATE OF BIRTH Fecha de Nacimiento Del estudiante	BUS NUMBER Numero del Camión
Additional Information: i.e. Medical Condition, Allergies or Special Instructions			

You must keep ALL YOUR INFORMATION up to date.

The student above and I (signed as Parent) have read the *Safe Rider Policies and Regulations* understanding and agreeing to abide by all bus safety rules. Failure to comply can result in bus suspension and loss of riding privilege if not corrected.

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Please Print)	TODAY'S DATE Fecha de hoy	STUDENT'S SIGNATURE Firma del Estudiante
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE Firma del Padre		

Please return this form to your Bus Driver
Por favor, completa y retorna este contrato a el que Maneja el Camión.



**Middle/High School
Safe Rider Contract / Emergency Form**

STUDENT'S NAME

BUS NUMBER

The following adult may be called in cases of emergency if I cannot be reached (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

Authorized Adult other than Parent(s) (PRINT)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

PARENT'S SIGNATURE
Firma del Padre

TODAY'S DATE
Fecha de hoy

