

**PERSHING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
RULES OF THE BUS
FOR ALL BUS STUDENTS**

Dear Parents:

Each year in the United States there are more students killed in the loading and unloading areas around the school bus than any other area of the bus. We can save lives if we work together and you can help us by reviewing these rules with your child and making sure they follow the rules. Your child's safety is our most important concern.

We would like to keep you informed regarding the rules on your child's bus. Please read & discuss the following rules, rewards and consequences. The both of you should sign the back page and return it to the driver immediately.

BACKPACK AND BOOK BAGS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS RIDING A SCHOOL BUS TO AND FROM SCHOOL OR ON A FIELD TRIP. BACKPACK MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE STUDENTS BACK WHILE RIDING.

RULES:

1. **ALWAYS OBEY THE BUS DRIVER.**
**** ARRIVE AT THE BUS STOP FIVE (5) MINUTES BEFORE SCHEDULED DEPARTURE TIME-NO EARLIE.**
2. REMAIN SEATED AT ALL TIMES IN YOUR ASSIGNED SEAT.
3. REFRAIN FROM YELLING OR USING FOUL LANGUAGE ON THE BUS.
4. REFRAIN FROM EATING, DRINKING OR USING TOBACCO ON THE BUS.
5. KEEP YOUR HANDS AND FEET OUT OF THE AISLE AND TO YOURSELF.
6. ALL BODY PARTS MUST STAY INSIDE THE BUS AT ALL TIMES.
7. REMAIN IN YOUR SEAT UNTIL THE BUS DOOR IS COMPLETELY OPEN.
8. YOU MUST GET OFF AT YOUR ASSIGNED STOP UNLESS PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION (BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN) IS GRANTED BY A SCHOOL OFFICIAL. AFTER BOARDING THE BUS YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO GET OFF THE BUS EXCEPT FOR YOUR SCHEDULED STOP. SEE NOTICE TO PARENTS FOR MORE INFORMATION OF RELEASE OF STUDENTS.
9. YOU MUST NOT CROSS THE STREET UNTIL THE DRIVER MOTIONS YOU ACROSS IN THE FRONT OF THE BUS.
10. ALL OF YOUR PROPERTY MUST STAY OUT OF THE AISLE AT ALL TIMES.
11. THERE WILL BE NO LARGE OBJECTS, WEAPONS OR ANIMALS ALLOWED ON THE BUS NO SKATEBOARDS, BICYCLES OR SCOOTERS. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
12. THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTE QUIET AT ALL RAILROAD CROSSINGS.
13. CLEAN-UP AFTER YOURSELF.
14. FOR THE SAFETY OF THE STUDENTS, ITEMS ARE NOT TO BE STORED IN THE UNDERCARRIAGE STORAGE COMPARTMENT OF THE BUS ON REGULAR TO AND FROM SCHOOL BUS ROUTES.
15. STUDENTS USE OF CELL PHONES CAN NOT BE A DISTRACTION TO THE DRIVER. IF A STUDENT DOES NOT RESPOND TO A DRIVERS DIRECTION WHILE LISTINING TO MUSIC OR USING CELL PHONE THE STUDENT WILL BE ASKED TO PUT THE DEVICE

AWAY OR THE DEVICE CAN BE TAKEN FROM THE STUDENT AND GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL.

16. LISTENING TO MUSIC MAY BE ALLOWED IF THE STUDENT CAN HEAR DIRECTIONS FROM THE DRIVER. (EXAMPLE: USE ONLY ONE EAR BUD) MUSIC MUST NOT BE PLAYED LOUD ENOUGH FOR OTHER STUDENTS OR THE DRIVER TO HEAR.
17. SPRAYING PERFUME INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY FORM OF BODY SPRAY IS PROHIBITED ON THE BUS. ANY FORM OF AEROSOL SPRAY IS FLAMMABLE AND PROHIBITED FROM BEING ON THE BUS.
18. ANY STUDENT DAMAGING A SCHOOL BUS BY FIRE OR OTHER MEANS WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COST OF THE REPAIR WORK AND MAY BE PROSECUTED.

STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE NOT TO OBEY THE RULES WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES:

FIRST CITATION- DRIVER DISCUSSES INFRACTION WITH THE STUDENT AND DEPENDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THE INFRACTION DRIVER MAY ISSUE A SCHOOL BUS CITATION WHICH WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION UP TO THREE (3) DAYS. PARENT/GUARDIAN WILL BE CONTACTED.

SECOND CITATION- DRIVER ISSUES SCHOOL BUS CITATION WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR. CONFERENCE WITH PARENT/GUARDIAN-DRIVER-SCHOOL OFFICIAL-TRANSPORTATION OFFICIAL MAY BE HELD AND WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION FOR UP TO TEN (10) DAYS.

THIRD CITATION- DRIVER ISSUES SCHOOL BUS CITATION WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR. CONFERENCE WITH PARENT-DRIVER-SCHOOL OFFICIAL-TRANSPORTATION OFFICIAL WILL BE REQUIRED AND WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION FOR 9 WEEKS.

SEVERE DISRUPTION- THE FOLLOWING INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF TRANSPORTATION PRIVILEGES.

1. PHYSICAL HARM OR THREAT OF HARM TO ANOTHER STUDENT.
2. PHYSICAL HARM OR THREAT OF HARM TO BUS DRIVER.
3. FIGHTING, CARRYING WEAPONS, SMOKING, USE OF DRUGS, ETC.
4. PROPERTY DAMAGE (DAMAGE WILL BE PAID BY OFFENDER).
5. CONSTANT REFUSAL TO OBEY BUS DRIVER.
6. TOTAL DISRUPTION OF THE BUS.
7. HARRASSING OR BULLYING OF ANYONE. (PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FOR DEFINITIONS)

Notice to Parents and Drivers

PROPER PROCEDURES FOR THE RELEASE OF STUDENTS FROM THE BUS.

Any student that boards the bus must not be released to anybody other than a school official. This means Principal, Teacher or Aid. If you are not sure that the person coming to get the student is a school official, call the appropriate school and ask. Parents wanting to get your child off of the bus after he or she has boarded must go to the office and ask a school official to have your child released from the bus.

THE DRIVER SHOULD NEVER PUT A STUDENT OFF THE BUS AT A NON SCHEDULED STOP.

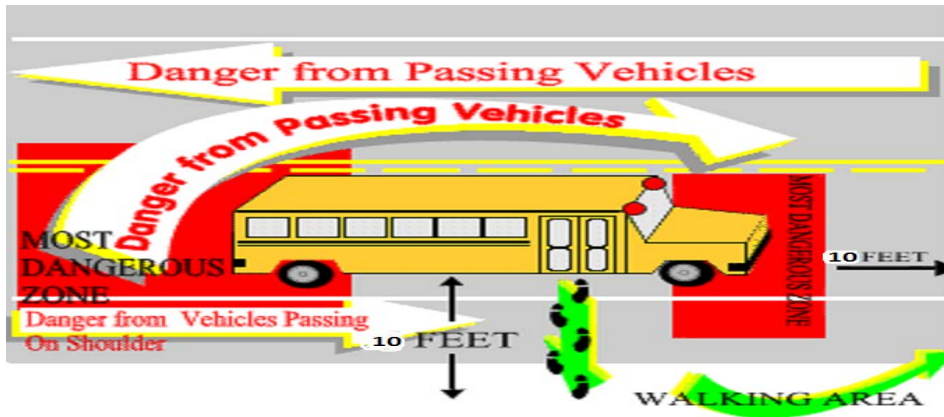
A driver should never permit a student to leave the bus, other than school or home. Written permission must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and by the office of the child's school before a student can be released at a stop other than the normal scheduled stop.

STUDENTS HAVING OTHER STUDENTS RIDE HOME WITH THEM THAT ARE NOT REGULAR STUDENTS ON THE BUS MUST HAVE A BUS PERMISSION SLIP SIGNED BY THE PARENT AND THE PRINCIPAL AND BE APPROVED AT LEAST TWO (2) DAYS IN ADVANCE BY THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE. PERMISSION WILL ONLY BE GRANTED IF SPACE ALLOWS AND PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED AHEAD OF TIME. (BUS PERMISSION SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITE OR IN YOUR CHILDS SCHOOL OFFICE)

PERSHING COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RELEASE OF STUDENTS AT BUS STOP

Regular Route Stop: Students will be released from the bus at their regular scheduled route stop. Once the students have been released from the driver and are outside of the danger zone, the District is no longer responsible for the children at that stop any longer. The Danger zone is described by the State of Nevada School Bus Driver Training Manual as the 10 feet around the bus. (See Diagram at bottom of page)

Special Needs Route Stop: Special Needs Stops are Curb to Curb. Once the driver arrives at the regular scheduled stop in front of the student's house, a parent or somebody appointed by the parent must be there to take custody of the student at the stop. Once the child has been released to the person taking custody of the child the District is no longer responsible for the child. If the parent or person appointed by the parent is not at the stop to take custody, the driver will wait 5 minutes and proceed to the next stop and the aid will call the school and inform them that no one was at the stop to pick up the child. After all stops have been made the driver will return the student that was not picked up back to the school. A list of route times for pick up and drop off will be given to the parent within 15 days of the student first riding the bus. Parents will be notified if changes to the route affect the pickup and drop off times of that student.



**“WHAT
THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT THE LAWS GOVERNING SCHOOL BUSES”**

NRS 484.357 Overtaking and passing school bus; penalty.

1. The driver of any vehicle when meeting or overtaking, from either direction, any school bus, equipped with signs and signals required by law, which has stopped to receive or discharge any pupil and is displaying a flashing red light signal at **any/all** locations visible from the front and rear, shall bring his vehicle to an immediate stop and shall not attempt to overtake or proceed past the school bus until the flashing red signal ceases operation.
2. The driver of a vehicle upon a divided highway needs not to stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is positioned in the other roadway. The driver of a vehicle need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus where traffic is controlled by a traffic officer. **NRS 484.048 “Divided highway” defined. “Divided highway”** means a highway divided into two or more roadways by means of a physical barrier of dividing section, constructed so as to impede the conflict of vehicular traffic traveling in opposite directions.
3. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and:
 - (a) For a third or any subsequent offense within 2 years after the most recent offense, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 and his driver’s license must be suspended for not more than 1 year.
 - (b) For a second offense within 1 year after the first offense, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$500 and his driver’s license must be suspended for 6 months.
 - (c) For a first offense or any subsequent offense for which a punishment is not provided for in paragraph (a) or (b), shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$250 no more than \$500.

NRS 484.358 Report by driver of school bus of violation of NRS 484.357; submission of report to school district and Department; provision of notice to owner of vehicle.

1. The driver of a school bus who observes a violation of NRS 484.357 may prepare a report of the violation. The report must be signed by the driver.
2. The driver of a school bus who prepares a report pursuant to subsection 1 shall, within 2 working days after the violation, send the report to the superintendent of his school district and a copy to the Department, which shall thereupon mail to the last known registered owner of the vehicle a notice containing:
 - (a) The information included in the report;
 - (b) The provisions of NRS 484.357; and
 - (c) An explanation that the notice is not a citation but a warning of the seriousness of the violation.

	<p>School bus transportation is safe.</p> <p>In fact, buses are safer than cars! Even so, last year , approximately 26 students were killed and another 9,000 were injured in</p>	
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	incidents involving school buses. More often than not, these deaths and injuries didn't occur in a crash, but as the pupils were entering and exiting the bus.	
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NRS 484.366 School zone or school crossing zone: Speed limit; designation; signs; determination of hours in which speed limit is in effect.

1. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour in an area designated as a school zone.
2. The governing body of a local government or the Department of Transportation shall designate school zones and school crossing zones.
3. Each such governing body and the Department shall provide signs to mark the beginning and end of each school zone and school crossing zone which it respectively designates. Each sign marking the beginning of such a zone must include a designation of the hours when the speed limit is in effect or that the speed limit is in effect when children are present.

POLICY REGARDING HARASSING AND BULLYING

Definitions:

Harassing- continually bothering, pestering, persecuting, or tormenting another person. Usually takes the form or verbal or no verbal behavior, without physically aggressive actions.

Bullying- frightening, threatening, fighting or hurting those who are smaller, weaker, or can't defend themselves. Usually takes the form of physically aggressive actions coupled with verbal and non-verbal behaviors.

Teasing and kidding based on friendship and kindness between friends who like and respect each other are acceptable behaviors within appropriate social limits. When teasing and kidding become unwelcome and not asked for they become unacceptable behaviors.

Those unacceptable behaviors are defined above as harassing and bullying which are forbidden on the school bus. The actions may take many forms:

<u>Verbal</u>	<u>Non-verbal</u>	<u>Physical</u>
Demands to do something	Staring/ "mad dogging"	Physical
Insults	Insulting sounds	Touching, holding
Threats	Insulting gestures	Pinching
Spreading rumors	Getting friend to do it	Grabbing
Sending nasty notes		Hitting, punching
Name calling		Tripping, kicking
Dissing ("disrespecting")		Gum in hair
Prank phone calls		Throwing things at the Person
		Physically attacking
		Taking belongings
		Damaging belongings

In simple terms, harassing and bullying are deliberate and/or repeated behaviors towards another person

THAT ARE NOT WELCOME AND NOT ASKED FOR.

If you feel you have been a victim of harassing or bullying. Please notify your bus driver, teacher, counselor, or an administrator immediately. If it is confirmed that harassing or bullying did occur, disciplinary action will be taken against the harasser or bully that may range from phone calls to parents, parent conferences, detention or suspension, to the filling of formal charges with the police.

With your awareness of what harassing and bullying are, be responsible for your own appropriate behavior. Think about your own action and how other people may interpret them.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE AND SIGN SAYING THAT YOU HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO YOU IN THIS DOCUMENT. AFTER YOU HAVE READ AND SIGNED PLEASE RETURN THE SIGNED PAGE TO THE BUS DRIVER.

THIS PAGE NEEDS TO BE RETURNED TO THE BUS DRIVER WITHIN (5) FIVE SCHOOL DAYS OF BEING GIVEN THE INFORMATION PACKET.

IF THE SIGNED PAGE IS NOT RETURNED WITHIN THE (5) FIVE DAYS THE STUDENTS RIDING PRIVLEDGES WILL BE SUSPENDED UNTIL THE SIGNED PAGE IS RETURNED TO THE DRIVER.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE AT 273-2205

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING AND RETURN TO THE DRIVER

**THIS DOCUMENT NEEDS TO BE RETURNED WITHIN (5) FIVE
SCHOOL DAYS OF RECEIVING THIS DOCUMENT**

I HAVE READ THE RULES OF THE BUS AND HAVE DISCUSSED THEM WITH MY CHILD. I UNDERSTAND THAT RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS IS A PRIVILEGE AND AGREE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY CHILD'S BEHAVIOR. I UNDERSTAND IF MY CHILD'S SCHOOL BUS PRIVILEGES ARE SUSPENDED, I AM RESPONSIBLE TO ENSURE HIS/HER ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL AS REQUIRED BY THE COMPLUSORY EDUCATION LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA.

PARENTS' SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE _____

This information will be kept **confidential** and only used if necessary.

STUDENT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ GRADE _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

HOME PHONE _____

STOP LOCATION _____

EMERGENCY PHONE _____

FAMILY DOCTOR _____ PHONE _____

MEDIC ALERT INFORMATION _____ ALLERGIES _____

IF YOU'RE CHILD HAS ANY SPECIAL MEDICAL, EMOTIONAL, OR BEHAVIORAL NEEDS THAT THE DRIVER SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF TO BETTER ENSURE A SAFE SHOOOL BUS RIDE FOR EVERY STUDENT, PLEASE INDICATE BELOW.

Thank you for your cooperation.

THIS AREA BELOW IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY TRANSPORTATION

Date Received: _____

Bus Route: _____

Bus Stop Location: _____ Time AM _____

Driver Signature: _____