

Stewart County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Bus Safety and Conduct	Descriptor Code: 6.308	Issued Date:
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 In order to maintain conditions and atmosphere suitable for learning, no person shall enter onto a Stewart
2 County school bus except students assigned to that bus or other persons with lawful and valid business
3 on the bus.¹

4 The school bus is an extension of school activity; therefore, students shall conduct themselves on the bus
5 in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior.

6 Students are under the supervision and control of the bus driver while on his/her bus, and all reasonable
7 directions given by him/her shall be followed. A driver may remove a student in the event that the driver
8 finds it necessary for the safety of the other student passengers or the driver, provided that the driver
9 secures the safety of the ejected student for the uncompleted trip. A driver shall report to school
10 authorities as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the route, any student refusing to obey the
11 driver or exiting the bus without the driver's permission at a point other than the student's destination
12 for that trip.²

13 The principal of the student transported shall be informed by the bus driver or the Transportation Director
14 of any serious discipline problem and may be called upon to assist if necessary. A student may be denied
15 the privilege of riding the bus if the principal determines that his/her behavior is such as to cause
16 disruption on the bus or if he/she disobeys applicable policies and procedures pertaining to student
17 transportation.

18 Any student who gets off the bus at any point between the pick-up point and school shall present the bus
19 driver with a note of authorization from the parent/guardian or the principal of the school that the student
20 attends.

21 Any student wishing to ride a bus other than his/her designated bus shall have written parental permission
22 and the approval of the principal/designee.

23 Students who transfer from bus to bus while en route to and from school shall be expected to abide by
24 the discipline policies adopted by the Board and procedures maintained by the terminal school.

25 **USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO FOOTAGE**

26 Cameras or video cameras may be used to monitor student behavior on school buses transporting
27 students to and from school or extracurricular activities. Photographs and video footage shall be used
28 only to promote the order, safety, and security of students, staff, and property.

29 Students in violation of bus conduct rules shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with
30 established board policy governing student conduct and discipline.

1 The district shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to photographs and video
2 footage.³ In order to view the bus video, Parent(s)/guardian(s) must submit a written request to the
3 Transportation Director within three (3) school days (excludes weekends and school breaks) of the
4 specific date desired to view. Requests should include the name of the parent/guardian's custodial child
5 to be viewed, bus number, date and time of desired footage, and the reason for the request. A time and
6 place for the viewing shall be arranged. Prior to viewing video footage, parent(s) / guardian(s) will be
7 required to sign a confidentiality / non-disclosure agreement. The Transportation Director, Principal or
8 Assistant Principal or their designee shall be present when parent(s) / guardians are provided the
9 opportunity to review photographs and / or video footage. Recorded materials shall be
10 maintained by the school district for a minimum of three (3) days unless a written request has been
11 received. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may not take still photographs or recordings of the school bus video. All
12 photographs and videos are property of Stewart County Schools and many not be retained in any form
13 by the parent(s) / guardian(s).

14 A request to view video images from the bus does not exempt a student from disciplinary action if
15 applicable.

16 As used in this section, the terms "parent" or "guardian" means the parent, guardian or person who has
17 custody of the student or individual who has legal care giving authority.

18 A copy of the written request form can be found and downloaded from the Stewart County Schools
19 website under "Transportation".

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-2008
2. TCA 49-6-2118(d)
3. TCA 10-7-504; 20 USCA §1232g
4. Public Acts of 2019, Chapter No. 256

Cross References

Student Transportation Management 3.400
Scheduling and Routing 3.401
Code of Conduct 6.300
Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316
Student Records 6.600
Annual Notification of Rights 6.601
Inspection and Correction Procedure 6.602