

# HAYWOOD COUNTY SCHOOLS

## BUS CONDUCT RULES

**Riding a school bus is a privilege. The school bus is an extension of the classroom. The following rules allow for a safe and enjoyable ride to and from school and school events.**

1. Unauthorized personnel are not allowed on any bus.
2. Students will only be transported to and from a Primary or listed Alternate address.
3. Students must be at the bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus. The bus is not required to stop, sound the horn, or wait for your students to walk from the house. Please be sure they are at the stop waiting for the bus!
4. Stay 10 feet away from the bus. Do not stand in the street while waiting for the bus, and do not try to board the bus until the bus comes to a full stop and the door opens. Students can get injured walking too close to the bus before it stops.
5. Never reach or crawl under the bus. Let the driver know if anything goes under the bus and you want to retrieve it.
6. If you must cross the road to board the bus, wait for the driver's signal before crossing and walk 10 feet in front of the bus.
7. The bus driver may assign seats.
8. Students are to be seated and facing the front at all times.
9. Please refrain from touching the emergency exits or other safety equipment on the bus unless instructed to do so by the bus driver or monitor.
10. Do not throw anything out of the bus window at any time.
11. Fighting, pushing, kicking, bullying, or harassment will not be tolerated at any time.
12. Any form of inappropriate language or profanity will not be tolerated while on the bus. Students should refrain from yelling.
13. Any carry-on items should fit within your seat, from instruments to backpacks and projects.
14. The use of cell phones with an ear bud is allowed, as long as the student can hear announcements made by the driver or the monitor. The driver may confiscate the phone during the route if it becomes disruptive to the bus.
15. Balloons, flower arrangements, and other breakable items are not allowed on the bus.
16. Weapons, explosive devices, drugs, or chemicals are not allowed on the bus.
17. Animals or insects are not allowed on the bus.
18. Any form of tobacco and alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the bus.
19. Eating or drinking is not allowed on the bus. Bottled water may be allowed at the driver's discretion.

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20. No perfumes, colognes, lotions, fingernail polish or other irritants are allowed on the bus.
21. Kindergarten and special needs children must be accompanied by an adult both morning and afternoon in order to ride the bus. If there is no parent or legal guardian present, the child will be taken back to the central office or the transportation department.
22. If a student damages any part of a bus, the student's parents will be held financially responsible. The student will not be allowed to ride the bus until the debt is paid.
  - a. Bus Seats - \$150.00
  - b. Windows - \$300.00

### **Protocol for Bus Referrals**

Procedures for bus write ups will be as follows: the discipline procedures outlined in board policy 6.313. This procedure can be found on the website: [haywoodschoools.com](http://haywoodschoools.com)

### **Consequences for Bus Referrals**

Incident #1: Referral Warning

Incident #2: 2-day suspension from bus

Incident #3: 5-day suspension from bus

Incident #4: 10-day suspension from bus

Incident #5: Will result in permanent loss of bus privilege

### **School Board policy will be followed for:**

1. Fighting or attempting to incite a fight
2. Possession of Tobacco, Vape, Prohibited Drug, and/or weapon

If a student has a loss of bus privilege, the parent/guardian will be responsible for providing the student with transportation to and from school during that time. Loss of privilege will go for any form of transportation by Haywood County Schools.

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Please return the last page to the driver and keep the bus rules to discuss with your child.

I have read, understand and have explained the bus conduct rules to my bus rider(s):

Students (s) Name:

Bus Number:

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Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

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Date