

# INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOL BUS RIDERS

School bus riders, while in transit, are under the jurisdiction of the school bus driver unless the local board of education designates some adult to supervise the riders.

It is strongly recommended that all riders, parents of riders, and teachers become thoroughly familiar with the following regulations governing school bus riders. This may be accomplished by giving each student a mimeographed copy of Instructions to School Bus Riders.

It is also recommended that administrators and parent-teacher organizations hold school bus transportation meetings throughout the school year. The Illinois State Board of Education will be happy to assist in meetings of this type whenever possible.

INSTRUCTIONS (REMEMBER: These instructions should be followed to insure the safety and well being of all students on the bus and to assist the driver in the safe operation of the school bus vehicle.)

1. Be on time at the designated school bus stop; help keep the bus on schedule.
2. **Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.**
3. **Be careful in approaching the place where the bus stops. Do not move toward the bus until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.**
4. Do not leave your seat while the bus is in motion.
5. **Be alert to a danger signal from the driver.**
6. Remain in the bus in the event of a road emergency until instructions are given by the driver.
7. **Keep hands and head inside the bus at all times after entering and until leaving the bus.** Do not throw anything out the bus windows.
8. Remember that loud talking and laughing or unnecessary confusion divert the driver's attention and could result in a serious accident,
9. **Be absolutely quiet when approaching and crossing railroad crossings.**
10. Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. **Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.**
11. Assist in keeping the bus safe and sanitary at all times. **No eating is allowed on the bus.**
12. Carry no animals on the bus (except with special permission of the district).
13. **Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisles and away from emergency exits.** These items should be placed under the school bus seat while in transit.

14. Leave no books, lunches or other articles on the bus.
15. **Be courteous to fellow pupils and the bus driver. To earn respect, you must first show respect.**
16. Help look after the safety and comfort of smaller children. Keeping distractions to a minimum will help the bus driver insure your safety while in transit.
17. **Do not ask the driver to stop at places other than the regular bus stop.** He or she is not permitted to do this except by proper authorization from a school official.
18. Observe safety precautions at discharge points. **Know and observe the rules.** When it is necessary to cross the highway, proceed to a point at least **10 feet in front of the bus** on the right shoulder of the highway where traffic may be observed in both directions. **Wait for the signal from the school bus driver permitting you to cross.**
19. Observe the same rules and regulations on other trips under school sponsorship as you observe between home and school. Respect the wishes of the chaperone appointed by the school.

**REMEMBER:** Your safety on the school bus depends on how well you conduct yourself on the school bus as well as how the driver performs his or her responsibilities. There are consequences for breaking bus-riding rules, and you can lose your bus-riding privileges as a result of breaking the rules. The driver also has rules that must be followed and unsafe driving practices or inappropriate conduct should be reported to the school superintendent or principal.