

Rusk ISD School Bus Discipline Plan

The Rusk ISD School Bus Drivers are trained professionals who take pride in their work and are truly concerned about the welfare of the students. They will do their absolute best to transport the students safely with courtesy.

The same amount of safety and courtesy is expected from the students. Please bear in mind that all of the rules spelled out in the Rusk ISD “Student Code of Conduct” are in effect at all times during the transportation of students to or from school or on an activity sponsored by a school on a vehicle owned or operated by the school district.

“Student Code of Conduct” Prohibited activities include:

1. Throwing objects, other than during supervised school activities, which can cause bodily injury or damage property.
2. Leaving school or a school-sponsored event with out permission.
3. Exhibiting disrespect or directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students, parents or school personnel.
4. Insubordination, including failure to comply with lawful directives from school personnel or with school policies, rules and regulations.
5. Committing arson.
6. Damaging or vandalizing property owned by other students or district employees.
7. Engaging in misconduct on school buses as defined by district policies and regulations.
8. Committing robbery or theft.
9. Fighting, physical abuse, or threats of physical abuse.
10. Committing extortion, coercion, or blackmail, i.e., obtaining money or other objects of value from an unwilling person or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force.
11. Engaging in verbal abuse, i.e., name calling, ethnic or racial slurs, or derogatory statements addressed publicly to others that may precipitate substantial disruption of the school program or incite violence.
12. Engaging in inappropriate physical contact disruptive to other students or the school environment.
13. Possessing a paging device or mobile phone, except when the student is serving in the capacity of an active member of a volunteer fire fighting organization or an emergency medical service organization.
14. Engaging in any other conduct that disrupts the school environment of educational process.
15. Engaging in any activity that could be construed as sexual harassment or sexual abuse.
16. The use of drugs or alcohol.
17. The use of any tobacco product.
18. Possession of any weapon.

Additional rules are posted in the front of each bus and are visible to every rider. The rules read as follows:

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
2. Be courteous, use no profane language.
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Cooperate with the driver.
6. Do not use tobacco.
7. Do not be destructive.
8. Stay in your seat.
9. Keep head, hands and feet inside the bus.
10. Bus driver is authorized to assign seats.
11. Bad language and obscene gestures will not be tolerated.

If a student chooses not follow these rules, the student will be subject to the Rusk ISD School Bus Discipline Plan. The plan is a four step discipline process as follows:

- First Write Up for misbehavior —conference with student
- Second Write Up—One day suspension of Bus riding privilege
- Third Write Up—One week suspension of Bus riding privilege
- Fourth Write Up—Loss of Bus riding privilege for the remainder of current semester (if the Fourth Write Up occurred during the Fall semester, the student may return to riding the bus at the beginning of the Spring semester. However, the next Write Up will be considered a “Third Write Up”)

The Plan covers the entire School Year and does not “zero out” at the mid year break.

If a misbehavior is deemed severe, the step process may be accelerated to the Fourth Write Up level with the loss of bus riding privilege for the remainder of the current semester without going through the entire Write Up Process.