



TRANSPORTATION

North Dakota law provides that bus drivers shall have authority over learners while they're being transported in school buses. The West Fargo Public School bus system has the following rules and consequences in effect for all bus learners:

- Follow the driver's directions the first time they are given.
- No moving or changing seats while the bus is in motion.
- Keep your hands, feet, legs, and objects to yourself. Do not hang out windows.
- Be courteous to the driver and fellow passengers. No profane language, yelling, or screaming.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus. No smoking or lighting matches.
- Do not litter the bus. Pick up all papers or other personal items.
- Do not damage seats, windows, or any bus equipment.
- Be at the bus stop on time. No pushing or shoving while loading or unloading. **NO SQUIRT GUNS, UMBRELLAS, ANIMALS, SKATEBOARDS, OR ANYTHING OF A DANGEROUS OR OBJECTIONABLE NATURE WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE BUS.**
- Only learners assigned to a bus will be permitted to ride the bus to and from school. Bus learners will not be allowed to bring friends unless parent or guardian has called the transportation department to schedule a guest. Regular bus riders will be permitted only to ride the bus they are assigned to and not a different one. A parent or guardian must call the Transportation Department to approve their learner to get off at a stop other than their own.
- Cell phones must be concealed at all times. Cell phones which are being used on the bus will be taken away and returned at the end of the route. Repeated violations will be referred to the principal.
- The bus driver is the authority on the bus. The bus driver has the duty and responsibility to maintain discipline on his/her bus. If a learner neglects to follow the rules and fails to cooperate with the driver, the following process will occur:
 - **Low Level Infractions:** Learners who violate low level rules are subject to in-school consequences which are determined by the principal at each school. Upon third low level write up learner may be subject to the high level consequences.
 - **High Level - 1st offense:** Learner will be removed from the bus for one week.
 - **High Level - 2nd offense:** Learner will be removed from the bus for two weeks.
 - **High Level - 3rd offense:** Learner will be removed from the bus for one month.
 - **High Level - 4th offense:** Learner will be removed from the bus for remainder of school year.
 - **Severe Clause:** Learners may have their riding privileges suspended for longer durations for severe acts on the bus.
 - **Revoking Clause:** A learner may have their bus riding privileges permanently denied for serious actions, or threats that pose a danger to others.

Parents should cooperate with the school authorities and bus drivers in providing safe and efficient transportation.



- The purpose of school bus transportation is to provide safe, comfortable, and economical transportation for learners of the schools of the district. It is not a taxi service for pupils.
- Parents should not expect the bus to operate over roads that are not properly maintained or on roads or driveways where adequate space is not available to turn the bus around, if necessary.
- Learners should be at the bus stop on time.
- Any suggestions for changes in the transportation program which a parent thinks will improve it should be presented to the Transportation Director.
- Parents should ensure the cooperation of learners by studying with them the rules adopted for school bus operation. Parents should understand that children riding on a school bus must obey all regulations and the requests of the driver or they may forfeit their privilege of riding on a bus.
- They should require their children to wear or carry clothing that is suitable for the North Dakota winter weather.