

## STUDENT DISCIPLINE ON SCHOOL BUS

It is hoped that these guidelines will help to provide safe transportation to and from school for the students. Students should be at the bus stop at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time. It is a privilege, not a right, to ride school buses in the Standish-Sterling School District.

### I **BUS DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES**

Students who have the opportunity to ride district school buses may do so as long as they display behavior that is reasonable and safe. Choosing to follow unacceptable behavior will result in loss of bus service. The bus driver is responsible for the safety and discipline of students on the bus. The building principal and/or assistant principal is available to give assistance to the driver and will determine consequences of misbehavior and the reinstatement of bus service for the offending students should a suspension become necessary. A suspension applies to all buses unless otherwise designated by school officials. The responsibility for student supervision by the District shall begin when the student boards the bus in the morning and is retained until the child leaves the bus at the end of the day; or until released to the parent/guardian in a manner consistent with guidelines on release of students.

### II **TRANSPORTING OF SCHOOL RELATED/NONRELATED ITEMS**

Band instruments that will be allowed on the bus are those that are small enough to be held in the student's lap. Instruments may not be in the aisle or take the space of a student. Baseball and softball bats, or any other unacceptable recreational equipment will not be allowed on regular route buses. Damage to personal items is not covered by the district's insurance coverage.

### II **BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES AND CONSEQUENCES – (K-5TH GRADES)**

#### **A. CLASS I OFFENSES**

1. Spitting
2. Excessive noise
3. Excessive horseplay
4. Eating or drinking on bus
5. Leaving seat/standing while bus is in motion
6. Squirt guns/liquid containers in any form, except those intended for lunch box use.
7. Profanity, verbal abuse, harassment, obscene gestures or possession of unacceptable material.
8. Riding unassigned bus without permission

#### **CLASS II OFFENSES**

9. Hanging out of window
10. Throwing/shooting any object
11. Physical aggression against any person

12. Use of tobacco or any controlled substance
13. Vandalism to bus (restitution will be made)
14. Holding onto/or attempting to hold onto any portion of the exterior of the bus
15. Lighting of matches, fireworks or any flammable object or substance.
16. Unauthorized entering or leaving bus through emergency door/tampering with bus equipment
17. Laser lights of any type will not be allowed
18. Other offenses as reported by driver or principal

**B. CONSEQUENCES**

**1. CLASS I**

- a. First Offense – Warning or 1-5 days suspension
- b. Second Offense – 1-5 days suspension
- c. Third Offense – 5-10 days suspension
- d. Fourth Offense
  - 10 – day minimum suspension
  - Possible loss of all bus service
  - Parent/Guardian/Principal meeting

NOTE: May also include suspension from school.

**2. CLASS II**

- a. First Offense – 5 days suspension
- b. Second Offense – 5-10 days suspension
  - Possible loss of all bus service
  - Parent/Guardian/Principal meeting
- c. Third Offense – 10 days minimum suspension
- d. Fourth Offense – loss of bus service

**IV BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES AND CONSEQUENCES (6<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADES)**

**A. CLASS I OFFENSES**

1. Spitting
2. Horseplay
3. Excessive Noise
4. False identification
5. Eating or drinking on bus
6. Riding unassigned bus without permission or using unassigned bus stop
7. Leaving seat/standing while bus is in motion
8. Squirt guns/liquid type containers in any form, except those intended for lunch box use
9. Riding or attempting to ride any bus after receiving a suspension
10. Profanity, verbal abuse, harassment, obscene gestures, or possession of unacceptable material
11. Laser lights of any type will not be allowed
12. Other offenses as reported by the driver or principal

**B. CLASS II OFFENSES**

1. Hanging out of a window

2. Throwing/shooting of any object
3. Physical aggression against any person (subject to citation)
4. Use of tobacco or any controlled substance (subject to citation/testing)
5. Vandalism to bus (restitution will be made)
6. Lighting of matches, firecrackers or any flammable object or substance
7. Holding onto/or attempting to hold onto any portion of the exterior of the bus
8. Unauthorized entering or leaving bus through emergency door/tampering with bus equipment
9. Other offenses as reported by the driver or principal
10. Public displays of affection are not permissible
11. Any offense committed on any bus outside of regular transportation to and from school (activity, field trips, etc.) will carry a minimum penalty of a Class II, First Offense.

**C. CONSEQUENCES**

**1. CLASS I**

- a. First Offense – Warning or 1-5 days suspension
- b. Second Offense – 5-10 days suspension
- c. Third Offense
  - 10-day minimum suspension
  - Possible loss of bus service
  - Parent/guardian/principal meeting
- d. Fourth Offense – Loss of bus service

Note: May also include suspension from school.

**2. CLASS II**

- a. First Offense – 5-days suspension
- b. Second Offense – 10-days suspension
- c. Third Offense –
  - 10-day minimum suspension
  - Possible loss of bus service
  - Parent/guardian/principal meeting
- d. Fourth Offense – loss of bus service

NOTE: The bus is an extension of the school day. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats. The sexual racial/religious/bullying/ harassment policy and the weapons policy of the district will be strictly enforced on the school bus as well as at school. May also include suspension from school.