

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Background

In compliance with the Education Act and Regulations, the Division shall provide transportation to eligible students in the Division. The safe transportation of students to and from schools is to be the primary concern in the administration of the transportation program.

The Division expects that all provincial laws, regulations and Division safety guidelines will be observed by drivers, students and Division personnel.

Procedures

1. While the law requires the Division to furnish such transportation, it does not relieve parents from the responsibility of child supervision prior to the child boarding the bus in the morning nor after the child leaves the bus at the end of the school day.
2. Once students board the bus (entering and alighting included), they become the responsibility of the Division. Such responsibility shall end when the student is delivered to the regular bus stop at the close of the school day or when the student chooses an alternate mode of transportation.
3. Students require a safe, clean, well-regulated bus. Because the driver must give his/her full attention to driving, his/her requests and orders must be obeyed. If a student feels that he/she is being unfairly treated and he/she cannot resolve the problem with the driver, the student is to report the situation with all the details to the Principal of his/her school. The Principal will investigate and try to settle the difference.
4. It is the responsibility of the Principal to review with the student body at the beginning of a school year, and at any other time of the school year as is deemed necessary, the rules, regulations and policies relating to student conveyance. These are outlined in the Transportation Handbooks.
5. Principals or their designates are responsible for the supervision of loading/unloading buses.
6. The Principal is to advise and support a bus driver in the discipline of students on a school bus.
7. Students are responsible for their conduct to the bus driver and through him/her to the Principal of the attending school.
8. The Supervisor of Transportation will be responsible for maintaining and keeping current an on-going school bus safety.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 121, 178, 194, 195, 196, 197 Education Act
The Highways and Transportation Act
The Traffic Safety Act

Approved: November 26, 2018