

BOARD POLICY	
<i>Policy Section</i> TRANSPORTATION	<i>Policy Number</i> 1004
<i>Administrative Procedure Number</i> AP-TRAN-1004	<i>Page</i> 1 of 3

POLICY TITLE

Safety and Conduct on School Buses

1.0 PURPOSE

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board is committed to providing students with a safe environment while travelling on school buses and school transport vehicles.

2.0 POLICY

It is the policy of the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board that, in accordance with Ministry Regulations, pupils are responsible to the principal of the school for their conduct while travelling on school buses owned by or under contract to the Board.

3.0 GUIDELINES

3.1 General

- (a) It is desired that close liaison between bus drivers and school principals be maintained.
- (b) The principal's responsibility for the safety and conduct of pupils is no less applicable to the school bus than to the classroom. Just as pupils in the classroom are directly responsible to the teacher, pupils riding on the school bus are directly responsible to the driver and, through the driver, to the principal.
- (c) Schools shall ensure a mechanism exists to deal with educating students and communicating to their parents and guardians the elements addressed specifically in this Policy.

3.2 Rules of Conduct on School Buses

Rules of conduct shall be established in order to provide guidance to students regarding the Board's expectations of acceptable behaviour while being transported. These rules will form the basis for the submission of the Student Behaviour Report Form (Appendix A of Administrative Procedure AP-TRAN-1004) to be used when dealing with inappropriate conduct.

3.3 School Bus Discipline

Riding on a school bus is a privilege not a right. A student guilty of misconduct may lose this privilege. Restoration of the privilege will be at the discretion of the principal after consultation with the student, his/her parent or guardian and, where necessary, the respective school superintendent.

3.4 Video Cameras and Digital Video Recording Devices on Buses

To assist with the monitoring of safe practices on school buses, the Board endorses the practice of video taping of passengers while riding the bus. Video cameras or digital video recording devices are considered tools to assist drivers and staff in dealing with misconduct on buses.

3.5 Transportation of Personal Items on a Bus

Where the transportation of personal items on a bus to and from school is necessary to carry out regular or elective programs, such transportation is authorized at the discretion of the school principal following consultation with the bus driver.

4.0 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

5.0 REFERENCES/RELATED DOCUMENTS

Administrative Procedure AP-TRAN-1004, Safety and Conduct on School Buses

6.0 RELATED POLICIES

Policy 1001, Student Eligibility
Policy 1002, Bus Operator Contracted Services
Policy 1003, Route Operation
Policy 1005, Accidents and Injuries on Buses
Policy 1006, Student Safety

7.0 RELATED FORMS

8.0 APPROVED BY BOARD

October 24, 2006

9.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

October 24, 2006

10.0 POLICY REVIEW DATE

October 2008

11.0 REVIEW BY

Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario