

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

Section: Business and Administrative Services

• Transportation

Policy Code: BA-8.4

Policy: SAFETY AND CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

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In accordance with Ministry Regulations, pupils are responsible to the principal of the school for their conduct, in accordance with Policy No. ES-1.1, Safe Schools, and the School Code of Behaviour, while travelling on school buses owned by or under contract to the Board. It is desired that close liaison between bus drivers and school principals be maintained.

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.

Schools shall ensure a mechanism exists to deal with educating students and communicating to parent(s)/guardian(s) the elements addressed specifically in this Policy.

Administrative regulations shall be established in the following areas to assist schools in maintaining safe bus operations

1. 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 to be used when dealing with inappropriate conduct.

2. 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, parent(s)/guardian(s) and, where necessary, the respective school superintendent.

3. 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.

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4. 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.

Established: 25 May 2000

Revision Dates: 28 September 2006