

MOUNTAIN HOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICIES FOR STUDENTS RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time. Stand back about ten feet from the bus stop and wait until the door is opened before moving close to the bus.
2. While loading or unloading, enter or leave the bus orderly, quickly and quietly.
3. While riding the bus, students are under the supervision of the driver and must obey the driver at all times. Students causing disciplinary problems on the bus will be identified and disciplinary action taken. After the 4th incident reported on the bus (no matter how trivial), student will have mandatory time off the bus.
4. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they will not distract the attention of the driver or disturb other riders on the bus.
5. NO food or drink is to be consumed on the bus. NO knives or sharp objects are allowed. NO firearms, ammunition, or fireworks are to be brought on the bus. Do not bring trading cards, pets, or any kind of animal on the bus. Radios, video games, DVD and music players are only allowed at the driver discretion. If the driver allows any of these last items on the bus, they must be played at a noise level that is not distracting. They are **not** to be brought out at school and may only be brought if student assumes risk. **Mountain Home Public Schools will not be responsible for any personal item lost, stolen, broken or damaged on the school bus.**
6. **The use of cell phones on the school bus is prohibited.**
7. Students need to speak in a moderate voice; no yelling or screaming. Pupils **must** remain seated and out of the aisle while the bus is in motion. No backpacks, books, or other items are to be left in the aisle. **Keep the aisle clear.** Do not put arms, hands, head or anything out of the windows.
8. A student will be liable for any damage he/she does to the bus. This includes writing on seats, poking holes, tampering with any bus equipment or furnishings.
9. Students who must cross the road or highway to enter the bus must always be on the right side of the road waiting for the bus. If the student must cross the roadway, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the driver has signaled you across.
10. Students who must cross the road after leaving the bus in the afternoon must go to a point on the shoulder of the road 15 feet in front of the bus (or until the driver can plainly see the student) and wait for the driver to signal the student across.
11. Students must ride their assigned bus. Those needing to ride another bus or get off the bus at a point other than normal (for any reason) must bring a note with parent permission to their building principal's office. The office will then issue a bus pass which the student will present to the driver of the bus they are to ride that day. Mountain Home Public Schools will not assume responsibility for transportation of students to special events after school.

Failure to follow any of these policies can result in loss of riding privileges.

For Transportation assistance, call 425-1240 or 425-1229.

Mountain Home Public Schools
1309 South College
Mountain Home, AR 72653
Dr. Jacob Long
Brent Bogy
Fax 870-425-1373

870-425-1240
Superintendent

Director of Transportation

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Dear Parents:

Attached you will find a copy of the school district's policy for students who ride a school bus. Also attached is a form which requires you to give information that may be needed in case of an emergency. On this form you will also be asked to sign that you have read the policy and understand it. This form **must be returned by September 4** to the bus driver of your child's bus in order for your child to continue to ride the bus.

I encourage each parent to read the bus discipline policy very carefully. It is our goal to operate buses in the safest manner possible. In order to do this, we must have your cooperation as well as your child's cooperation. A student who does not wish to sit down on the bus and obey the regulations will have his or her bus riding privilege revoked.

Reading and understanding the school policy may seem like a minor issue to you right now; however, if your child has a problem on the bus and the bus riding privilege is suspended, it will be a major issue for you. This is why it is so important that you understand the policy. Please review this policy with your child or children and make sure your child understands how he or she is expected to act on the bus. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Please read and discuss the safety rules with your child or children as changes have been made.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at 425-1240.

Sincerely,

Brent Bogy
Director of Transportation

Committed to Excellence in Education