

BELLEVUE BUS TRANSPORTATION RULES AND EXPECTATIONS 2026-2027

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Bellevue School District is pleased to provide bus transportation within the district boundaries. The district is the final authority in determining if regulations have been violated and what appropriate disciplinary action(s) may result.

This policy is adhered to in order to provide protection for our children while they are riding district school buses or vans to and from school. The intention is not to be unreasonable, but in order for the policy to do what is intended—to protect students—consistency in its application is necessary.

ANY CHANGES IN A CHILD'S NORMAL DESTINATION MUST BE ARRANGED IN ADVANCE.

Requests should be in writing and the change request must be signed by the child's legal guardian.

Students give all notices to the office first thing in the morning so that the Bus Drivers are aware of any instructions from home. The bus driver will not leave a child at any stop other than the child's normal destination without authorization from the office. **The bus is not allowed to stop unless it is a designated bus stop.** The District will attempt to accommodate reasonable requests for transportation changes. **Any and all changes in transportation need to be made by 12:00 PM NOON**

If your child is not riding the bus home, he/she needs to be picked up, attend ASP, or leave campus **immediately after school as there is no supervision after 2:35 p.m. and by 1:00 p.m. on early release days.** Thank you for all your cooperation and understanding which has already been demonstrated by so many of you.

The following guidelines, based upon the "Regulations of Pupil Transportation" as set forth by the State Department of Education and the California Highway Patrol, govern the operation of our school buses.

BUS RULES

1. The bus driver has total jurisdiction over the conduct of all pupils while riding on a school bus. (Vehicle code 14263a)
2. Each pupil may be assigned to a definite seat, and may not be permitted to move from an assigned seat except upon permission from the driver.
3. No part of the body, head or arms may be extended out the windows.
4. Pupils must sit up in the seat and face the front of the bus, keeping feet out of the aisle.
5. No pupil is permitted to interfere with another pupil or to deface the bus or property of another pupil.
6. Smoking/ Vaping or the use of tobacco in any form in a school bus shall be prohibited.
7. No intoxicating liquor or drugs shall be carried in a school bus at any time.
8. No animals, insects or reptiles shall be transported in a school bus without prior approval of the school principal or designee.
9. No glassware of any type shall be transported in a school bus.
10. Weapons of any sort, loaded or unloaded, except side arms carried by a peace officer, shall not be transported on a school bus.
11. No eating, drinking or chewing gum, etc. shall be permitted without the approval of the driver.
12. **No electronic devices of any kind [are allowed] on the school bus unless authorized by the driver. If a device is confiscated the parent will need to stop by the office to pick it up.**
13. Playing musical instruments, whistling, yelling, loud talking, profane language, destroying articles, throwing things, shooting rubber bands, scuffling, fighting, spitting or throwing objects through windows, or any unnecessary commotion is not allowed on the bus.
14. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
15. A driver may discharge a student at a stop other than the regular stop only when the student has a **signed note from a parent or guardian.**
16. Any damage to the bus by a pupil which cannot be considered ordinary wear and tear must be paid for by the pupil.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF BUS RULES

Step 1 The Driver will conference with the pupil and attempt to solve the problem and/or prevent further problems. The student may be given an assigned seat for a designated time period. The Driver may notify parents depending on specific problem and pupil attitude.

Step 2 The Driver will write a bus citation and refer the pupil to the principal. The Principal will take steps to prevent further problems. Depending upon the severity of the offense, the student may lose riding privileges for up to 5 (five) days. The Parents will be notified.

Step 3 The Driver will write a bus citation and refer the pupil to the principal. The principal will take steps to prevent further problems. Depending on the severity of the offense, pupils may lose riding privileges for up to the remainder of the school year. Parents will be notified.

In extreme cases of rebellious conduct and/or disrespectful attitudes, where immediate disciplinary action is deemed necessary by the bus driver, the above procedure may be circumvented and the pupil may be excluded from riding the bus by the driver or principal (Vehicle Code 14263a). However, a bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus en route between home and school or other destinations. The decision regarding the permanent exclusion of any pupil from the bus, after a thorough review of the case with the parties concerned, shall be the responsibility of the District Superintendent or designee.

Cooperation of all pupils and parents is requested so pupils being transported under school authority shall be guaranteed the greatest possible safety. Pupils must realize that the safety of their own lives and those of their schoolmates depends upon cooperative bus conduct.

If you have any questions regarding bus transportation please call the Transportation Director, Shawn Nygard, at (209) 586-5510 and ext. 6303. / email snygard@mybellevue.org

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have gone over all of this information with your child.

***** (No need to sign if completed through authorization on Online Portal Registration) *****

Student name (please print): _____ Grade: _____

Signature: _____
(Required for 4th-8th grades)

Parent
Signature: _____

On a normal schedule my child:

_____ I, or someone that I authorize, will meet them at the bus stop.

_____ My child can walk home from the bus stop without an adult.

Anything else the bus driver should be aware of? For example—*carsickness, sensitivity to noise, etc.*:

Office use only: Bus Stop: _____