



### **14.7 SCHOOL BUS RULES**

All school rules and policies apply when students ride busses to and from school and school activities. Bus drivers will provide each student with bus rules. Students who receive disciplinary “write-ups” from bus drivers will be dealt with according to that student’s prior bus infractions.

### **BUS CONDUCT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The following bus regulations are considered recommended guidelines to correct behaviors that could create an unsafe environment. It is our privilege and pleasure to furnish students with the safest transportation possible as they travel between home and school and on school related trips. In order to protect all students IMSA – West buses, safety precautions are a must! Your help is needed because safety is everyone’s responsibility!

All students are to understand that the bus driver is in charge of the bus at all times. Any students who repeatedly violate the safety precautions and/or bus rules may be denied the privilege of riding the bus and is subject to other disciplinary action to be determined by the principal. To that end, the following conduct rules are called to your attention:

1. Students must arrive at the stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. The bus will not wait.
2. Students must wait quietly in a location clear of traffic and away from the bus stop.
3. Student behavior at bus stops must not threaten life, limb or property of any individual.
4. Students must go directly to an available or assigned seat
5. Students **MUST REMAIN** seated, facing forward with both feet on the floor, keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Students must observe classroom conduct. All school rules apply on the bus. Obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
7. Students must be courteous and respectful to fellow students and to the bus driver.
8. Students must not engage in loud talking or laughing, excessive horseplay, or fighting.
9. Unnecessary confusion diverts the driver’s attention and might result in a serious accident.
10. Students must not use profane or abusive language.
11. Students must refrain from chewing gum, eating and drinking on the bus except as required for medical reasons.
12. Students must not use or possess tobacco, or related products, on the bus.
13. Students must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus except for prescriptions medication required for student.
14. Students must not throw or pass object on, from, or into the bus
15. Students may carry on the bus only objects that can be held in their laps. No living creatures are permitted.
16. Students must treat bus equipment as one would treat valuable furniture in his or her home. Vandalism will not be tolerated.  
Keep the bus clean and sanitary
17. Students must not extend any part of their bodies out of the bus windows.
18. Students are to remain absolutely quiet at railroad crossings until the bus has completely crossed and the driver says it is okay to talk.
19. Students must leave or board the bus at locations to which they have been assigned unless they have written parental and administrative authorization to do otherwise.
20. Book bags, musical instruments and other carry-on items are to be held on the student’s lap or placed under their seat.
21. Board in single file, respecting the other students boarding.
22. All electronic devices (cell phones, IPODS, handheld gaming systems, etc.) must not be a distraction to the driver or other students.
23. Remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop.

24. When crossing the street, students need to stand at least ten feet in front of the bus and wait for a signal from the bus driver, never cross behind the bus.

25. Parents or guardians are responsible for the safety of their child on the way to and from as well as at the bus stop.

### **MINOR VIOLATIONS**

Minor Violations are those that disrupt the driver's concentration or behavior that may cause harm to the students or others.

Some other minor violations include:

- Loud talking (at any time) or talking at railroad crossings
- Moving around the bus or out of the seat
- Touching/disrupting others
- Repeated tardiness to the bus
- Disrespect to other students or the driver
- Harassment of other students
- Not following the reasonable request of the driver
- Possession of a match or lighter
- Eating or drinking (food or gum) on the bus
- Tampering with emergency equipment or doors
- Littering or throwing objects from the bus
- Any other infraction of the building's student behavior code

**Consequences-** Three minor violations may result in a bus suspension up to 3 days.

### **MAJOR VIOLATIONS**

Major Violations are those that are severe in nature or that directly or indirectly endanger the students or other students, the driver, or the public.

- Minimum of five repeated Level 1 offenses (Minor Violations)
- The threat of violence to the driver or other school employees
- The use of profanity
- Igniting a match or lighter
- Possession of an incendiary device (smoke bomb, fire cracker, cherry bomb, sparkler, etc.)
- Fighting/assault
- Possession of a weapon
- Vandalism or arson
- Theft
- Pushing/hands on others/tripping

**CONSEQUENCES-** Suspensions up to 10 days or expulsion up to 185 days from the bus and/or from school.



## Bus Rider Policy

Please take a few minutes to review with your child the information in this packet concerning student conduct on the bus. The primary purpose of rules and procedures on the buses are for the safety of all students. Your child's cooperation in following all rules and procedures is appreciated by the drivers.

Student Transit and IMSA West Administrators are dedicated to safety transporting your student(s) to and from school. To accomplish this task, IMSA West must enforce the bus policy.

IMSA West understands that this policy could place a hardship on some families; however, we feel we must establish a procedure to insure the safety and security of our students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**CUT ON DOTTED LINE AND RETURN BOTTOM PORTION TO THE BUS DRIVER**

**BUS DRIVER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BUS #** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the above bus rules and regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone#

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell#

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature