

# DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

## POLICY

***BUS BEHAVIOR***

Adopted: 5/10/2000

Policy No. 7-231\*

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### **BEHAVIOR**

The safety of children is the prime concern of all persons involved in providing transportation to and from school. The preparation, dissemination, and enforcement of necessary regulations relating to safe transportation rests with at least three different agencies; the school, the transportation system, and the home.

The regulations and guidelines governing desirable behavior have been developed for the purpose of promoting bus safety to its highest degree. Compliance with these rules will support safe riding habits by students, and a safe operation of the transportation system. All regulations and guidelines will govern student behavior on daily school bus routes, or on any special events, when they use a school bus for an activity sponsored by the Danbury Public Schools.

### **SUSPENSION**

The enforcement of the rules of behavior, therefore, is required in order to preserve safety. In cases where students do not conduct themselves properly on a bus, the bus driver shall bring them to the attention of the building principal. Misbehavior is violation of the school bus transportation policy and may result in suspension of school bus privileges and/or suspension from school.

### **Definition**

Suspension of bus privileges means the denial of school bus transportation to and from school. Suspension from school means an exclusion from school privileges for not more than 10 consecutive days, provided such suspension shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such suspension is imposed.

### **Procedure**

1. Disciplinary action other than suspension of bus privileges may be initiated in response to any instance of misbehavior on a school bus.

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2. The principal or their designee shall forward a letter to the parent or guardian of the student to inform them of the disciplinary action and the reasons therefore, with the admission that a continuation of the unacceptable behavior may result in a denial of school bus privileges.
3. In any 20 school day period, after two instances of misbehaving on a school bus, the third such instance and each instance thereafter may be considered grounds for suspension of school bus privileges.
4. Prior to the imposition of suspension of school bus privileges, the principal or designee shall give the student an informal hearing at which the student will be informed of the reasons for the disciplinary action and be given an opportunity to explain the situation. If the administration determines to suspend transportation privileges the principal or designee shall give the student and their parent or guardian not less than 2 days notice of the effective dates of the loss of school bus privileges.

### **APPEALS**

1. In the event that the student or their parent or guardian wishes to appeal the suspension of school bus privileges they may request that the Superintendent of Schools or their designee conduct a hearing to review the principal's decision.
2. Appeals shall conform to Connecticut State Statute 10-233c relative to student transportation.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent or guardian of any student who has lost their school bus privilege to see that they get to and from school safely.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Connecticut State Statute 10-233c