

<p align="center">DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Danbury, Connecticut</p>	<p align="center">REGULATIONS</p>	
<p align="center"><i>BUS BEHAVIOR</i></p>	<p>Reviewed: 11/25/08</p>	<p>Policy No. 7-231 Page</p>
<p>Consistent compliance with these rules, regulations and guidelines will encourage safe and satisfactory operation of our transportation system:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disruptive behavior, which creates safety concern for the driver, or safety problems for the passengers, will not be permitted. 2. There shall be no smoking, use of alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs at any time on school buses. 3. Students must remain seated and wear a seat belt until it is time to leave the bus at its destination and has stopped. 4. The bus driver is in complete charge, and all reasonable requests of the bus driver must be obeyed. 5. All articles such as athletic equipment, books, musical instruments, etc., must be kept out of the aisles. 6. The rear exit door may be used ONLY in an emergency. Students shall not damage bus equipment or tamper with safety equipment on the bus. 7. Damage to bus equipment will mean loss of bus-riding privileges and reimbursement for repair. 8. Disciplinary action is the responsibility of the school principal. <p><u>SUSPENSION OF BUS PRIVILEGES</u></p> <p>Everyone who is involved with students, when they use the school buses for transportation, is concerned about safety. There is an expectation that student behavior will always be at a safe and acceptable level, in order to insure safety on the school bus. Whenever a student's behavior does not comply with the discipline code, a written report will be submitted to a school principal describing the incident. A formal hearing will be held to review the circumstances and to determine if the reported behavior requires disciplinary action.</p>		

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>WARNING</u> - The student will receive a formal written reprimand and warning for a reported unacceptable behavior while riding or using a school bus. Repeated warnings may lead to a loss of bus-riding privileges. 2. <u>SUSPENSION</u> - The student has received a consequence for an unacceptable behavior while riding or using a school bus, which denies access to the bus for a limited time. The student is expected to attend school, but cannot use the bus to travel to or from school. Loss of bus-riding privileges may begin on the next school day, if parent/guardian telephone contact is made. It shall be the responsibility of the parent or guardian of any student, who has lost his/her school bus privilege, to see that he/she gets to and from school. 3. <u>PAYMENT OF DAMAGES</u> - Whenever a student's behavior causes damage to a school bus, a consequence may mean repayment for these damages. 4. <u>DISCIPLINARY REPORT</u> - A brief written report describing the incident and unacceptable behavior submitted to the school principal or designee. 5. <u>HEARING</u> - An informal meeting between the principal or designee and the student to review the written report, examine all of the relevant facts, and make a decision to resolve the matter or determine appropriate disciplinary action. 6. <u>COMMUNICATION</u> - At the conclusion of the hearing, the principal or designee will attempt to reach the parent or guardian by telephone to discuss the nature of the problem and the outcome of the hearing. Within twenty-four (24) hours, a written letter will be mailed to the parent or guardian to confirm the telephone contact and the disciplinary action. 7. <u>APPEALS</u> - In the event that the student or his/her parent or guardian wishes to appeal the suspension of school bus privileges, he/she may request that the Superintendent of Schools, or his/her designee, conduct a hearing to review the principal's decision. Appeals shall conform to the procedure outlined in Policy 		

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<p align="center">7-231 under “Appeals”.</p> <p>Written reports will be submitted to the principal, or designee, with names, facts and dates. This report will become the basis for an investigation and may be used in a formal hearing. The outcome of the hearing may be one of several consequences: a warning letter, a suspension of bus riding privileges, and a repayment for damages to school property. In several of the categories, warnings will always precede a suspension of bus riding privileges. In other categories, the safety concerns are so important that warnings will not be used, and suspension of bus riding privileges will become the only consequence.</p> <p>The suspension of bus riding privileges will begin the next school day, if the principal or designee is able to discuss the hearing with parents or guardian by telephone. Where telephone contacts or face-to-face contacts are not completed on the day of the hearing, the suspension of bus riding privileges will begin on the second day after the formal hearing sessions.</p> <p align="center"><u>WARNING/SUSPENSION PROCEDURES</u></p> <p>While students are riding school buses, it is considered an extension of the school day. When a student’s behavior does not comply with the Danbury Public Schools’ Conduct Code for Middle Schools, High School and Elementary Schools, a written report will be submitted to the school principal describing the incident. An informal hearing will be held with the student to review the circumstances and to determine if the reported behavior requires disciplinary action. At the conclusion of the hearing, the principal or designee will attempt to reach the parent or guardian by telephone to discuss the nature of the problem and the outcome of the hearing. Within one school day, a written letter will be mailed to the parent or guardian to confirm the telephone contact and the disciplinary action and offer the parent or guardian an opportunity for a conference to discuss suspension. Suspension of riding privileges and/or from the school as prescribed in the School Conduct Code. The first consequence is most often a formal written warning or reprimand to the student. Repeated warnings may lead to a loss of bus riding privileges. Suspension means access to bus transportation</p>		

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is denied for a limited time. The student is expected to attend school, but cannot use the bus to travel to and from school. It shall be the responsibility of the parent or guardian to see that the student gets to and from school. Loss of bus riding privileges may begin on the next school day if the parent or guardian telephone contact is made. Students may be required to pay for damages caused by their actions.

**BEHAVIORS WHICH WILL BECOME A BASIS FOR WRITTEN WARNINGS
OR
LOSS OF SCHOOL BUS-RIDING PRIVILEGES
(Daily Transportation or Field Trips)**

<u>HIGH</u>	<u>ELEM</u>	<u>MIDDLE</u>	
<u>CATEGORY I</u>			<u>TRAVEL SAFETY</u>
			Eating food or drinking beverages
			Littering the bus
			Use of profane or obscene language
			Leaving seat
			Refusing to use an assigned seat
			Placing hands, feet, or head out of window
			Pushing or shoving others
			Refusing to follow reasonable directions
	2	1	1
	1-3	1-3	1-3
			(riding privileges only)

<u>CATEGORY II</u>	<u>PASSENGER SAFETY</u>
	Smoking
	Throwing articles

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Refusing to use seat belts Entering/exiting through rear door			
WARNINGS SUSPENSION DAYS (riding privileges only)	1 1-3	1 1-3	1 1-3

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