

MALAKOFF ISD BUS RIDER HANDBOOK

The Malakoff ISD School District Provides bus transportation to and from school as a courtesy service for eligible students residing in the district. The State of Texas prescribes conditions governing school buses and funds the service by allotting the district a given amount for eligible student transport. The school district is pleased to provide transportation for eligible students and solicits your assistance in helping with a safe healthy operation.....

The goal of the Malakoff ISD Bus Rider Handbook is to help provide a safe and enjoyable experience for students who ride school buses. PLEASE read the enclosed information and share the information with your child.

Students are not able to ride to and from school on any other bus but their designated bus .This change was put into effect on April 1,2012. Please make sure that if your student needs to go someplace other than their home (babysitter, daycare, friend, etc) on any given day you will need to make arrangements with a family member or friend to get them there.

Please fill out the School Bus Rider Form on the back and return it to the driver.

If you have any questions please call the Transportation Dept. 903-489-1739

GENERAL SAFETY RULES

1. Obey the instruction of the driver. At no time shall a student act or address comments to a bus driver or monitor in a disrespectful manner, or refuse to cooperate with a driver.
2. Only students who are eligible to ride may be transported to and from school.
3. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to provide transportation to school if a student misses the bus. When maintenance or other problems should occur that cause the bus to be delayed, the school campus will be notified and the bus will make every stop regardless of the time.

Bus Rider Conduct Regulations

Under TEC 34.002-34.004, Malakoff ISD has established the following safety standards in the operation of school buses:

1. Students must be ready to board the bus at designated bus stops. The bus driver cannot wait for the students.
2. The driver may assign seats. The students will remain in that seat until instructed otherwise by the bus driver. The student will be held responsible for any damage to that seat.
3. Students will not extend any part of their body or any article out of the window whether or not the bus is in motion or not. Students will not spit or throw any object inside or outside of the bus.
4. Students are under the authority of Malakoff ISD. Students will not be allowed off a bus at a stop other than their school or regular stop.
5. Students shall not carry any weapons, explosives (such as fireworks), knives, water guns, pointed instruments or any other objects that could be considered dangerous or could conflict with the safety of the driver or students.
6. Scuffling, fighting and/or use of profane language or gestures will not be tolerated and may be grounds for immediate dismissal from bus privileges.
7. Students will not engage in verbal abuse, name calling, sexual harassment, ethnic or racial slurs or derogatory statements addressed publicly that may reciprocate substantial disruption or incite violence.
8. Students will not have possession of tobacco in any form. All such items will be taken up by the bus driver. Disciplinary action will be taken by the appropriate principal of the student.
9. Students will not make any loud, unusual noise or participate in horseplay, hazing or teasing of any kind. This behavior may distract the driver and may be grounds for immediate dismissal from bus privileges.
10. Students will keep the aisle clear. Any article (projects, band instruments, etc.) too large to be held in the lap or placed under the seat will not be allowed on the bus.
11. Live animals, insects or any object considered to be dangerous or hazardous will not be allowed.
12. The emergency door is not to be used to enter or exit the bus except in an emergency. In case of an emergency, the students will follow the instructions of the bus driver.
13. Bus drivers and school officials are not responsible for items left on the bus.
14. The bus driver is required to report any misconduct to the Transportation Director for disciplinary action.
15. The Malakoff ISD dress code will be enforced on the bus.
16. Students may not stand while the bus is in motion.
17. Food and drinks are not allowed to be consumed on the bus unless permission is given by the bus driver.
18. Expectant mothers are required to ride towards the front of the school bus for safety reasons.

5. Moderate horseplay
6. Inappropriate display of affection
7. Throwing objects that probably will not cause injury
8. Rude and disrespectful to driver or monitor
9. Littering

Consequences:

1. 1st offense – warning. Parent notified by mail
2. 2nd offense – suspension from riding the bus until parent conference
3. 3rd offense – suspension from riding any school bus for a maximum of ten (10) days
4. 4th offense – suspension from riding any school bus for a maximum of the remainder of the year.

Level II:

1. Cursing, inappropriate language, vulgar gesture (not directed at an adult)
2. Improper/unsafe loading or unloading
3. Limbs out of window while bus is in motion
4. Spitting
5. Failure to comply with lawful directives/policies including:
 - a. Refusal to get on or off bus at assigned stop
 - b. Refusal to sit in assigned or reassigned seat
6. Riding wrong bus without permission
7. Forging notes
8. Bullying

Consequences:

1. 1st offense – suspension until parent conference
2. 2nd offense – suspension from riding any school bus for a maximum ten (10) days
3. 3rd offense – suspension from riding any school bus for a maximum of the remainder of the school year.

Level III:

1. Vandalism
2. Tampering with bus equipment – opening front door or emergency door
3. Throwing objects in bus that could cause injury
4. Using matches or lighters
5. Impeding progress of the bus

Malakoff ISD School Bus Rider Contract
(This form must be filled out and returned to your child's bus driver)

Date: _____ Bus Number: _____ Grade: _____

Student's Name (Please Print) D.O.B. Parent's Name (Please Print)

Physical Address

Mailing Address

Home Telephone Parent's Work Telephone

I have read the Bus Rider's Safety Handbook and agree to abide by these regulations.

Student's Signature Parent's Signature

Note: If you move during the school year to another address within the Malakoff School District please let the Transportation Department know by calling and providing the bus driver with an updated Student Information Card.