



BUS SAFETY PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT

*Working Together, Transporting the Future:
Our Children*

Marietta City Schools Department of Transportation's goal is to transport our students, your children, safely and in a frame of mind to learn. Working together, we will have a safe and successful school year. The following Partnership Contract rules are taken directly from the Student Discipline Handbook. Consequences for violating the Bus Behavior policy are outlined in the Bus Safety Partnership Discipline Plan.

Compliance with the rules of the Bus Safety Partnership is required and is the responsibility of the student, to ensure the safe transportation of students to and from school. The Marietta City School Transportation Department reserves the right to remove any unruly student(s) jeopardizing the safety of others.

The objective of the school bus driver, the Marietta City Schools and the Marietta City School Board is to maintain proper student behavior while transporting students safely to and from school.

We greatly appreciate and thank you for your support for the Bus Safety Partnership Contract.

Marietta City Schools

BUS SAFETY PARTNERSHIP CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Students shall follow all student behavior policies and regulations while on system provided transportation, including, but not limited to, the prohibitions on physical violence, bullying, assault, battery, disrespectful conduct, or other unruly behavior. Students are to keep all body parts inside the bus at all times and must remain seated at all times. Nothing may be thrown into, out of, within, or at the bus. Students must **not**; make unnecessary noises, converse in **loud talking or yelling out the window**. Students must be absolutely silent at all railroad crossings.
2. Obscene language and gestures are prohibited.
3. Emergency doors and windows are to be used only at the direction of the Driver.
4. Students may not board or disembark bus at a bus stop other than the assigned stop for their residence, without submitting a written request from their parent or guardian, to the principal or designee for approval.
5. Students may use electronic devices during the operation of a school bus including, but not limited to: MP3 players, IPODs, cell phones, pagers, radios, tape players, and compact disc players, provided they are used with headphones **and** have the permission of the driver. Drivers have the discretion to manage or prohibit the use of electronic devices on their bus.
6. Students shall not use mirrors, lasers, flashing lights, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective surfaces in a manner which might interfere with the operation of the bus. Sports equipment, skateboards or items deemed by the driver as a safety hazard are prohibited.
7. Consumption of food or drinks is prohibited. This includes gum and candy.
8. Students shall board and exit the bus quickly, in a quiet and orderly manner. Students are to cross the street in front of the bus in full view of the Driver. Unsafe bus stop behavior will be reported on a referral form.
9. Students shall move behind the guardrail or white line before the bus is put into motion, and they must be seated (if available) and remain seated or behind the guardrail or white line throughout the entire bus ride.
10. Articles brought on the bus such as band instruments must be kept in the possession of the owner at all times. Every effort will be made to accommodate band instruments; however, those that are too large or pose a threat to safety may be denied for transport.
11. Students need to be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled time. Buses arriving within five (5) minutes of the scheduled time are considered to be on time. The bus will stop to load and unload passengers only at the designated bus stops. During inclement weather the Driver may make stops closer to a passenger's home, if possible.
12. Any behavior that is considered unsafe or disruptive by the bus driver will be handled through the use of the Bus Safety Partnership Discipline Plan.
13. Inappropriate behaviors determined to be **major violation** of the code of conduct do not require a verbal warning prior to a referral form being submitted to the school administrators.
14. Prohibited items may be temporarily held by the driver, provided they are returned to the student, student's parent/guardian, school administrator, or Director of Transportation. Drivers may not keep student's personal property overnight.

UNSAFE BEHAVIOR ON THE RIDE HOME

- If unsafe behavior occurs before the bus leaves the school, the student will be provided with two options: (1) Correct the behavior and continue home (behavior documented) or (2) be removed from the bus and stay at the school with staff supervision until a parent or guardian can pick the student up.
- If unsafe behaviors occur after the bus leaves the school, the driver will pull over to a SAFE location and restore order. If necessary, the student(s) will be removed from the bus and transported home by alternate means.

REMEMBER, RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS IS A PRIVILEGE

BUS SAFETY PARTNERSHIP DISCIPLINE PLAN

- **1st Offense** – Driver will give student verbal warning and continue to monitor student for compliance. Driver will record date of verbal warning.
- **2nd Offense** – Discipline Referral submitted. **Recommended action:** Student placed on probation and reassigned to the front of the bus for one week. Driver will contact the parent or guardian to ensure Bus Referral was received.
- **3rd Offense** – Discipline Referral submitted. **Recommended action:** Grades K-5, one (1) day bus suspension to be issued at the administrator's discretion. Grades 6-12, three (3) day suspension and a conference with administrator, driver, student and parent will be required before student may return to bus. Upon student's return to the bus they will be placed on probation and assigned to the front of the bus for two weeks.
- **4th Offense** – Discipline Referral submitted. **Recommended action:** Grades K-5, Mandatory conference with student, driver, parent and administrator. A three (3) day bus suspension to be issued at administrator's discretion. Grades 6-12, ten (10) day bus suspension and a final conference with administrator, driver, student and parent. Upon return to the bus the student will be placed on probation and reassigned to the front of the bus for the remainder of the school year.
- **5th Offense** – Referral submitted. **Recommended action:** Grades K-5, five (5) day bus suspension and up to a maximum suspension for the remainder of the school year at the administrator's discretion. Grades 6-12 twenty (20) day bus suspension and up to a maximum suspension of the remainder of the school year.
- **Notes:**
 1. Any recurring violation during probationary period will result in immediate suspension from the bus for the remainder of the probationary period.
 2. If probation is breached at any offense level a conference must be held with the student, parent or guardian, bus driver and administrator before student may return to riding the bus.
 3. Parents will be responsible for all transportation of their student to include field trips, athletic events and after school activities.
 4. Bus suspensions apply to all transportation services

After School Routes

1st Offense - Driver will give student verbal warning and continue to monitor student for compliance. Student will be assigned a seat to the front of the bus.

2nd Offense – Referral submitted. **Recommended action:** Suspension of bus riding privileges from all after school buses.

Remember, rules are made for everyone's safety!



BUS SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

SCHOOL _____ GRADE _____ ROUTE# _____ DATE ISSUED _____

STUDENT NAME (Print) _____ SEX: M or F

ADDRESS _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Print) _____

HOME # _____ CELL # _____ WORK # _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____
Name (Print) _____ Phone # _____

Relationship to student _____

Please list any medical conditions, allergies or special instructions for your child. _____

BUS SAFETY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the Bus Safety Partnership Contract and agree to abide by these rules. Failure to comply may result in bus suspension and loss of riding privileges. This page **MUST** be signed by both Student **and** Parent or Guardian and returned to the Bus Driver no later than five days from issue date indicated above. Failure to return contract within five days of issue will result in loss of riding privileges until completed and signed contract is returned to the driver.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO SCHOOL BUS DRIVER