

## **HARFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION RULES FOR STUDENTS**

The following transportation rules apply to all students riding school buses to and from Harford County Public Schools. In addition, all other policies adopted by the Board of Education regarding student behavior on school property will be enforced on Harford County Public Schools buses.

1. Students must follow directions from the driver the first time they are given. The driver shall be in full charge of the school bus and the students, except in the presence of a teacher/administrator, who shall then be in charge of the students.
2. Insubordination or disrespect to the driver or attendant will not be tolerated.
3. Students will sit in the seats which have been assigned to them by the driver and the principal or their designee. Students must remain in their seats at all times when the bus is in motion. Changing seats anytime during the run is prohibited.
4. Students may converse in a normal manner; but loud, profane, obscene language, or gestures will not be permitted.
5. With the exception of their books, bookbags and school equipment, such as musical instruments or gym bags, students may not transport other items on the bus without the permission of the driver. Books, bookbags, and other school equipment should be held by the student. No books or other objects are to be placed in the bus aisle. Books and other school equipment must be of a size that can be controlled in the seat by the student.
6. Students must not extend any part of their bodies through bus windows. Students must face forward at all times and keep their arms and legs out of the aisle. Spitting, or tossing objects on or out of the bus is prohibited.
7. Students must not attempt to board or to get off the bus while it is in motion.
8. Students should cooperate in keeping the bus clean and must not damage it. Any malicious or willful damage to a school bus will result in the immediate withdrawal of transportation services for the student or students involved. In addition, the cost of repairing the bus must be satisfactorily settled.
9. Students may not eat, drink, or chew gum on the bus.
10. Students may not play radios, CD players, or other such devices on the bus.
11. Students suspended from school may not ride the bus while they are on suspension.
12. Students may not leave the bus on the way to or from school without the permission of the driver. The driver will not give permission except in case of personal emergency on the part of the student or upon written request of the student's parent with the written approval of the principal.
13. Students are permitted to ride only the bus to which they are assigned, utilizing their designated bus stop, and which serves the area in which they live. Requests from parents for the students to ride other buses in an emergency will be considered by school officials.
14. Students must be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival time of the bus.
15. No glass items or live animals (except those assisting the handicapped) are to be transported on buses.
16. Students shall not use cell phones or otherwise be capable of receiving an activation signal at anytime while riding any form of transportation provided by Harford County Public Schools.
17. Students violating the transportation rules will be reported to the principal or the assistant principal, and transportation services may be restricted or withdrawn.

**REV 07/09**