

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUS RULES & REGULATIONS

2020-2021

1. The number of pupils who may ride a school bus is determined by the total number who can be seated. Buses are designed to seat three students per seat. Bus routes with large numbers of students on that route can be assigned three-to-a-seat. On such routes, due to overcrowding, additional Transportation Requests may be denied for students who do not live on that route.
2. Students are to be at their bus stops TEN MINUTES PRIOR to their estimated am pick up time.
3. Parents must be at the bus stop 10 minutes PRIOR TO THE BUS ARRIVING in the afternoons to receive Preschool – 2nd grade students. Drivers are NOT allowed to release Preschool – 2nd grade students without an adult at the stop who has permission to receive them, unless they have a sibling on the bus that is in 3rd grade or above.
4. The bus driver is the only person who is permitted to open and close the entrance door.
5. Walkways to the entrance or emergency doors must always remain clear. The driver will not permit anything to be brought aboard that could potentially hinder on or off loading. Students must keep bookbags, heads, arms, legs, etc., out of the walkways and windows at all times.
6. All students are under the jurisdiction of the driver while they are on a school bus. Drivers have the same authority as a teacher in the classroom. Drivers reserve the right to assign seats.
7. On entering the bus, students are to go directly to their seat. Students are to sit facing forward and remain in that seat unless asked to move by the driver, until they leave the bus. Moving from seat to seat is not permitted.
8. Misconduct such as: fighting, yelling, profanity, or any other conduct that is distracting to the driver will not be tolerated.
9. No drugs, alcohol or tobacco products are permitted.
10. No canned or bottled drinks other than water are permitted.
11. No objects are to be thrown on the bus or out of any bus windows.
12. Students are **NOT** permitted to eat on bus.
13. Students are expected to keep the bus clean, leaving trash on the bus is not permitted.
14. Posters, stickers, or advertising material of any kind are prohibited in or on school buses.
15. Students in secondary schools are respectfully allowed to use electronic devices. No calls, recording or sounds are aloud. ONE earbud is allowed. NO HEADPHONES. These devices are used at your own risk. The School Division is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged devices. Driver can stop device use at their discretion, when warranted.

16. **PILOT Trial for 2020/2021 School Year**. Elementary students **are** respectfully allowed to use electronic devices on school buses. No calls, recording or sounds are allowed. ONE earbud is allowed. NO HEADPHONES. These devices are used at your own risk. The School Division is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged devices. Driver can stop device use at their discretion, when warranted.
17. All students are expected to ride their assigned bus and to be picked up at their assigned stop.
18. Students are not permitted to get off at stops other than their own unless they present a school issued bus pass to the driver. (Please contact student's school if a pass is required.)
19. Any student found guilty of destroying any part of a school bus will be made to pay for the damage and is subject to suspension.
20. Students are not permitted to carry large items, large bags, luggage-type book carriers etc. on the bus. Such items compromise student ridership and safety. Drivers will try to accommodate when possible for sport bags and smaller band equipment. Effort will be made to support students being able to transport school projects to and from school on the bus based on space availability. Please see driver in reference to any questionable items.
21. On mornings when the district has inclement weather, parents and students can expect late buses. Delayed openings and closure announcements are posted on the district Web site, www.pgs.k12.va.us, when possible.
22. No pets will be allowed on the bus.
23. No buying or selling of any sort will be permitted on buses.
24. No Bullying.
25. Students **are not** at any time to transport medication by bus. Medication that would need to be administered during school hours must be delivered to the school nurse by a parent. Please continue to coordinate with your school nurse regarding any medical concerns at school or on the bus.
26. Any student who does not abide by the rules stated above will be disciplined or suspended from riding the bus. **Riding a school bus is a privilege, not a right.**

Failure to follow the bus rules will result in disciplinary action by Administrators.

Punishment may include suspension from riding the bus. Serious infractions/offenses may result in suspension from school as well.

(Please contact the School Administration with any concerns regarding discipline a student receives.)

