



## *Tattnall County Board of Education*

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### **Tattnall County School Bus Behavior Contract**

**Riding the school bus is a privilege for students, and maintaining proper behavior while on the bus is expected in order to protect the safety of all students. Getting the students to school and home safely is our top priority.**

#### **TATTNALL COUNTY BUS DISCIPLINE**

As defined by code section 20-2-1181, it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly disrupt or interfere with the operation of any public school, public school bus, or public school bus stop as designated by local school boards of education. Any person violating this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature. Unruly behavior on the school bus is failure to comply with the following rules established for the use of school transportation. Bus behavior is governed by the same rules stated in this handbook for behavior on school grounds or at school functions. Students are expected to follow school rules while waiting to board the bus and while on the bus. Loud disruptive behavior, being out of assigned seat, and not following directives of bus drivers is prohibited. In addition to the school rules set forth in this handbook, students are expected to:

- Respect their bus driver and cooperate with his/her instructions or requests.
- Remain in their assigned seats when the bus is moving and keep their hands and feet out of the aisle and off other riders or their property.
- Keep their heads, hands and feet inside the bus at all times.
- Remain absolutely quiet at all railroad crossings.
- *Students are likewise prohibited from:*
- Fighting or "rough housing", which includes disruptive behavior such as pushing, shoving, shouting, slapping, pinching, kicking, etc.
- Throwing items from the school bus.
- Acts of physical violence (as defined in O.C.G.A. §20-2- 751.6), bullying (as defined in O.C.G.A. §20-2-751.4(a), physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior. \*
- Having drugs, alcohol, weapons, fireworks or tobacco products in their possession when riding the school bus.
- Using profane, vulgar or obscene gestures to anyone on or outside the school bus.
- Eating, drinking or chewing gum on the bus.
- Damaging any portion of the interior or exterior of the school bus or its equipment.
- Having toys, pagers, radios, tape or compact disc players, tasers/shockers or other electronic devices, or using a cell phone on the school bus, and, even if permission to have possession of such items on the school bus has been obtained, to refrain from using such items in a manner that might interfere with the school bus communications equipment or the school bus driver's operation of the bus.
- Using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other light or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.
- Using tobacco products at the bus stop or on the bus.
- Students may not carry glass containers, large stuffed animals, or balloons on the bus.
- Students may not bring cell phones, radios, CDs, CD players, video cartridges or games, cameras, battery-powered video games, Ipods, other electronic games or devices, sports cards or others such as Pokemon, large sums of money, beepers or tasers/shockers, etc. Items such as deodorants, perfumes sprays, cosmetics, personal hygiene and similar type items are not to be used on school buses at all.

*Continued on the back*

*\* If a student is found to have engaged in physical acts of violence as defined by 8.5 §20-2-751.6, the student shall be subject to the penalties set forth in such code section. If a student is found to have engaged in bullying as defined by O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.4(a) or in physical assault or battery of another person on the school bus, the school board's policy requires a meeting of the parent or guardian of the student and appropriate school district officials to form a school bus behavior contract for the student. Such contract shall provide for progressive age-appropriate discipline, penalties, and restrictions for student misconduct on the bus. Contract provisions may include but shall not be limited to assigned seating, ongoing parental involvement, and suspension from riding the bus. (O.C.G.A. §20-2-751.5)*

Getting the students to school and home safely each day is the top priority in order to do this it requires the students to have good behavior. Each student is required to follow the bus rules and demonstrate safe behavior and not distract the bus driver. Each student has to observe and follow the same rules as they would in the classroom. The school bus is an extension of the classroom and positive behavior is required to provide student safety. The bus driver cannot focus on the road when a student is not following the bus rules. This causes the bus driver to be distracted and not concentrate on the road by taking their eyes off the road just for 5 seconds can be dangerous for everyone. I have read and understand if I choose not to follow this contract that I may be suspended from all Tattnall County School Buses immediately and I must arrange my own transportation to and from school.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bus Stop Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's (Guardian) signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read this to your child and sign and return back to the bus driver. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Tattnall County Bus Shop.**