School bus service is furnished to all students according to the rules and regulations set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Department of Transportation and the Board.

Considering that a bus is an extension of the classroom, the district requires students to conduct themselves on school buses in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct established for student behavior in schools and on district property.

While the School Board elects to provide student transportation, it does not relieve the parents/guardians of students from the responsibility of supervision until the time the student boards the bus in the morning and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day.

The driver has authority over and responsibility for all students on the bus from the point of pick up to the point of discharge, and students are responsible to adhere to his/her directions and instructions.

To assist with the maintenance of discipline and to enhance security, school buses and school vehicles may be equipped with audio recording and video recording equipment.

The building principal will determine and administer disciplinary action; alert staff in cases of a bus delay, emergency or accident; and advise the Transportation Supervisor of delayed arrivals.

Students will be informed annually regarding the authority of the bus driver and the rules for student conduct on buses.

Rules For Student Conduct

In addition to the established Code of Student Conduct, the rules for student conduct on school buses require that students adhere to the following:

1. Students must obey the driver.

2. Students must be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.

3. Students must obey everyday safety rules and not stand or play in the road; they must also respect the property of others.
4. Students must not approach the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the red lights and crossing gate are activated.

5. Students are to enter the bus using the handrail and take a seat without delay and disturbing other passengers.

6. Students are to remain in their seats until the bus comes to a complete stop.

7. The bus driver, for reason of discipline or order, has the right to assign seats on the bus.

8. Students are to use a “quiet” voice when talking on the bus; shouting and yelling will not be tolerated.

9. Students who misbehave on the bus may be suspended from the bus by the building principal, upon recommendation of the bus driver.

10. Students are not to put any part of their body outside of the bus windows (head, hands, etc.).

11. Students should not throw any objects inside or out of the bus at anytime.

12. The bus should be kept in a clean orderly fashion.

13. Bus riders may not ride any bus other than their assigned bus except in an emergency or with building principal permission, subject to available seating space on the requested bus.

14. Missing the bus is not a lawful absence.

15. Seatbelts must be used on those vehicles fitted with seatbelts.

16. No smoking or other use of tobacco on the bus.

17. No eating or drinking on the bus.

18. Students may not play any type of radio, tape or CD player without headphones on the bus.

19. Students are not to use any foul or profane language.

20. Fighting is prohibited.

**Discipline For Violations**

Bus drivers will notify school authorities of any infraction of established rules. Normally, for a first infraction a warning letter will be sent home. If the first infraction is a serious one (example: smoking), a student may be put off the bus without a first warning. For a second infraction, a student may be put off the bus for an indefinite period of time.
Miscellaneous Provisions

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Law (Effective August 11, 1998)

Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the offense of unauthorized school bus entry.

§5517. Unauthorized School Bus Entry

(a) Offense defined. - A person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver or a school official with intent to commit a crime or disrupt or interfere with the driver or a person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver or school official who refuses to disembark after being ordered to do so by the driver commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(b) Notice. - A school district may place a notice at the entrance of the school bus that warns against unauthorized entry.

Penalty is arrest, fine of up to $2,500 and imprisonment for up to one (1) year.