

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 83
(NORTH OKANAGAN-SHUSWAP)
Code of Conduct for Bus Students

The Board of Trustees of School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap) expects that every person who uses School District bus services will ensure each bus trip is a safe and pleasant experience for all passengers and driver. Every person using the bus will demonstrate a concern for safety and respect for their fellow passengers and their bus by observing the following expectations and regulations.

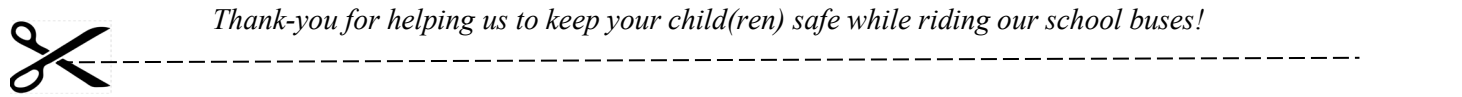
- 1. Students are expected to ride the school bus they are registered to and will board/disembark at their designated school or registered bus stop.
- 2. The Principal may, upon written request from the parent and approval from the Transportation office, fill out a “Permission to Ride” form allowing a student to exit their registered bus at an alternate existing stop on their route. Bus drivers will not accept handwritten notes, text messages or phone calls.
- 3. Students must be at their bus stop 5 minutes before scheduled pick-up time, line up and enter the bus in an orderly manner. Pushing or shoving will not be permitted.
- 4. **Kindergarten students will not** be allowed to leave a school bus at a stop unless a responsible adult is at the stop, or in close visual contact with the stop. When students are not allowed off the bus, they will be returned to the school and a parent will be contacted
- 5. Students must follow the direction of the bus driver and remain respectful of the driver and fellow students while on the bus. There is zero tolerance for bullying and defiant behaviors.
- 6. Students must remain seated, facing forward and aisles must be kept clear at all times. **Seats may be assigned.**
- 7. Students must not extend or toss anything outside of the bus through open windows including their arms, hands or head.
- 8. Loud noises and behaviours that could distract the bus driver may impact the safety of all riders on the bus and may be cause for the cancellation of a student’s bus service.
- 9. No eating or drinking on the bus except water or for pre-approved medical accommodations. Students shall leave no litter on the bus.
- 10. School District No. 83 School Buses are Scent Sensitive Zones with many buses being Scent Free due to allergies.
- 11. Riders must never follow or attempt to stop a bus after they have disembarked.
- 12. Large items (over 30 inches) used for approved school programs may be transported after filling out a Transportation of Large Equipment Application at your school office. Transportation will contact parents with approval or denial. School Board Regulation 5.3.1 (See transportable and non-transportable items on reverse side)
- 13. Serious misconduct (ie defiance, violence, bullying, vandalism) and/or the possession of restricted items (ie. weapons, vaping products) may lead to the suspension of busing privileges.
- 14. Students not using the busing system on a regular basis will not be guaranteed a seat. Regular = 3 days/week.
- 15. Students may be told to cross the road in the front of the bus while the red flashing lights are activated, and traffic is stopped. Students (and parents/guardians) MUST follow the hand signals of the bus driver to ensure their safety while crossing the street when the red flashing lights are active.

Standard of Student Conduct at School Bus Stops

Students shall abide by both the School Code of Conduct and this Code of Conduct for Bus Students while riding a School District No. 83 school bus.

School Bus Discipline

The School Principal/Vice Principal has the authority under the School Act, Section 5.3 to discipline any student who misbehaves both to and from school, which includes at or near a bus stop.
The School Bus Driver has authority over his/her bus passengers because the driver assumes responsibility for each person’s safety while being transported on the school bus as per the Motor Vehicle Act Div. 11.13(3) and the Supreme Court of Canada.
***The Safety of All Passengers Will Not Be Compromised.** Should any student not comply with the Code of Conduct outlined above, the Principal and/or the Transportation Department may suspend riding privileges or initiate other disciplinary measures.



Dear Parent/Guardian: Date: _____

Please sign this form indicating you have read and agree with the above “Code of Conduct for Bus Students”. Return this portion to your child’s **Bus Driver** before **September 27, 2024** or bus privileges may be denied.

Student’s Name: (Please Print) _____

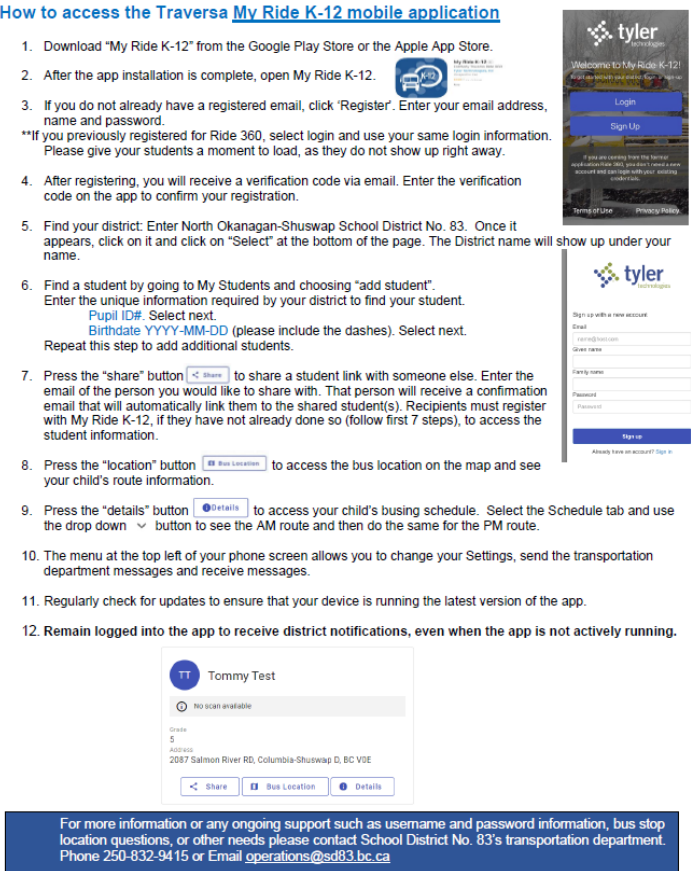
Student’s Signature: _____ Parent’s/Guardian’s Signature: _____

Physical Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Bus Stop Location: _____

AM Route Animal: _____ PM Route Animal: _____



1. Any equipment or items smaller than 30 inches (77cm) may be transported if they are kept on the student's lap without impeding the seat of another student, and if carried in an appropriate case.
Examples: a) Musical Instrument (in appropriate case) b) Roller Blades or Ice Skates (in a protective canvas bag)
c) Skateboards or Scooters (in a protective canvas bag or backpack – under 30 inches)
NOTE: Hockey sticks, skis, poles, snowboards, longboards, large musical instruments, etc. **will not** be transported inside the school bus.
2. Larger items (over 30 inches) used for approved school programs may only be transported after submitting the 'Large Equipment Application' and receiving approval from the Transportation Office. These items will need to be transported in the exterior luggage compartment under the bus. A pre-approved "safe" bus stop is required in order for this equipment to be safely loaded in the exterior luggage compartment. These items should be in a protective waterproof case. Transportation will not be responsible for damage to equipment.
Examples: hockey gear, snowboards, skis, poles and hockey sticks, large coolers, etc.
NOTE: if a student rides a different bus home; which does not meet the above requirements, the items will not be transported. Not all buses are equipped with an exterior luggage compartment.
3. There are a number of unusual items that will require pre-approval from the Transportation Office in order to be transported on the bus.
Examples: a) Pumpkins – small pumpkins may be transported if they are contained within a sturdy canvas bag or backpack. Students need to be able to hold onto the bag/backpack during the trip and safely manage the article while getting on and off the bus.
b) Class Projects – some of these projects are large and difficult to manage safely while getting on and off the bus.
c) Crutches – once approved by the Transportation Office, students must sit in the front seat with the crutches stored between the seat and window.
4. The following items **will not** be transported on a school bus: laser pointers, booster seats, helium balloons, weapons, animals, drugs & alcohol, vapour products (e-cigarettes), as per the Motor Vehicle Act and District Policy.

It is the Parents/Guardians responsibility to transport any items which are deemed unsafe to be transported on a school bus.



PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE
INFORMATION & RETURN TO YOUR BUS DRIVER
BEFORE SEPTEMBER 27, 2024
to avoid disruption of your child's
bus service.