The Board of Education of School District No. 83
341 Shuswap Street SW, Box 129, Salmon Arm, BC, V1E 4N2
PHONE 250-832-2157 FAX 250-832-9428

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BUS STUDENTS

Dear Parent/Guardian of School Bus Students;

The Board of Trustees of School District No. 83 expects that every person using School District bus services will be provided with a safe and pleasant transportation experience and will demonstrate a concern for safety and respect for their fellow passengers and their bus driver 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, fill out a "Permission to Ride to a Different Stop" 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 their scheduled pick-up time, line up and enter the bus in an orderly manner. Pushing or shoving will not be permitted.
4. **Kindergarten students <u>will not</u>** 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. If an adult is not present the student will be returned to the school for parent pick up.
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, legs, hands or head.
8. Loud noises, profanity and behaviours that distract the bus driver 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. Cell phones and electronic devices are banned on some School District No. 83. Drivers will communicate this rule to the students riding these buses.
12. Riders must never follow or attempt to stop a bus after they have disembarked.
13. 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. GUIDELINE 5.3.1

14. 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.
15. Students not using the busing system on a regular basis will not be guaranteed a seat. Regular = 3 days/week.
16. 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 the 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.

Please sign this form indicating that you have read and understand the rules of the school bus allowing your child to continue accessing the School District No. 83 School Bus they are registered to.

Please note: this is not a registration form.

Thank-you for helping us to keep your child(ren) safe while riding our school buses!

Student Name_____

Parent Name_____

Signature_____