

Policy: F-2

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Date Revised:

DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

Title: School Bus Discipline Policy

It is the policy of the Dover School District that any student that misbehaves or creates a safety problem on the District's school buses will be dealt with in accordance with the following procedures:

FIRST INFRACTION OF RULES:

The principal or designee will confer with the student and/or bus driver. The parents/guardian will be notified by phone. The parent/guardian and teacher will also receive the warning in written form. As appropriate according to the age of the student, reinforce bus rules and/or correct inappropriate behavior.

SECOND INFRACTION OF RULES:

The principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian by phone, and confer with the student and bus driver. Parents/guardians and teacher will be notified in writing that the student is "off the bus" for one week (5 school days). Upon return the student may be assigned a different permanent seat on the bus, at the discretion of the bus driver and/or principal.

Note: After the second infraction, students in grades K-3 may have their record cleared if no new infraction occurs within a period of 60 school days. A student will have his/her record cleared only once during the school year.

THIRD INFRACTION OF RULES:

The principal or designee will contact the parent/guardian by phone, and speak to the student and bus driver. Parents/guardians and teacher will be notified in writing that students in K-3 are "off the bus" for two weeks (10 school days) or that students in grades 4-12 are "off the bus" for a month (20 school days). The principal will be responsible for calling this conference if needed. (Grades 7-12 notification will come from the school district in which the student is a resident after notification by Dover School principal or designee).

FOURTH AND SUBSEQUENT INFRACTIONS:

For grades 4-12: The student will be "off the bus" for the remainder of the school year. Parents/guardians will be notified by phone by the school district in which the student is a resident after notification by Dover School principal or designee. Conference with parents/guardians and bus driver will be the responsibility of the principal if deemed necessary.

For grades K-3: The principal or designee will notify parents/guardians by phone, and speak with the student and bus driver. Parents/guardian and teacher will be notified in writing that the student will be “off the bus”. For the fourth offense: one month (20 school days); and for the fifth offense: two months (40 school days); and for the sixth offense: “off the bus” (remainder of the school year). Conferences for the fourth, fifth, and any subsequent offenses will be initiated by the principal if needed.

ALL INFRACTION

When a student’s consequences for an infraction have been fulfilled, then he/she begins the new school year with no infractions counted against them.

SPECIAL INFRACTIONS

1. **Weapons:**
A student transporting knives, guns, brass knuckles, nun-chunks, ammunition, explosives and/or other items designed to hurt/kill or maim, or other items described in relevant Vermont Statutes and school policy #49 (Weapons), will be barred from riding any school bus in this school district for at least a calendar year.
2. **Matches/Lighters/Fire:**
Any student found with matches, lighters or anything that may cause a “fire” will be barred from riding any school bus in this school district for the remainder of the current school year.
3. **Vandalism:**
Any student writing on, marking, cutting or in any other way defacing or tampering with the school bus or its equipment will be removed from the school bus for two weeks (10 school days) and will not be allowed to begin riding again until such time as the bill for repairs/cleaning has been paid in full by student. A second offense will result in suspension for the entire school year. There will be no exceptions. Students will not ride the bus in subsequent years if restitution has not been made.
4. If any of the above offenses occur and it warrants suspension from the school bus, these days will be carried forward to the next school year if necessary to complete infraction consequences.
5. **Other Serious Incidents:**
If in the judgment of the bus driver and principal the bus violation is serious, nothing in this policy shall prevent the principal from by-passing any required warning steps and establishing longer periods of time “off the bus”.

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY:

Parents/Guardians are legally responsible for the transporting a student to and from school should he/she be removed from the bus (“off the bus”). In the event parents/guardians fail to get the student to school, the principal will notify the Truant Officer and take other such steps as required by law.

- Modified means of notifying teachers/administrators to each Middle/Jr. High School/High School attended by School District students will be at the discretion of the Principal of the Dover Elementary School and considered sufficient under this policy.

- The term “off the bus” as used in this policy means to and from school where a teacher/aide is not present. It does not mean curriculum-based activities of an educational nature. On curriculum-based trips, the student being disciplined will be seated next to the teacher/aide in charge. A student “off the bus” from one school bus/van is barred from all transportation provided by the School District.