

SCHOOL BUS OPERATOR & EMPLOYEES TRANSPORTING STUDENTS

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CELL PHONE USE & BUS ROUTE INSPECTIONS

CELL PHONE USE

ANY employee transporting students shall not use a cell phone, wireless electronic device, or any headset, earpiece, earphones or other equipment that might distract a driver from his/her responsibilities, whether hand held or not, while the bus or vehicle is in motion and not appropriately parked or secured. This prohibition does not apply to the safe and appropriate use of two-way radios. All school districts and public schools that regularly transport students shall maintain documentation of training for bus drivers and employees in the safe and appropriate use of two-way radios.

Once the bus or vehicle is stopped and safely parked, a school employee may use an electronic device for emergencies to assist special needs students, for behavior management, for appropriate assistance for field/activity trips or for other business related issues. The Transportation Director will determine emergencies.

An employee may use an electronic device for personal use once the bus or vehicle is safely parked, appropriately secured and all passengers are safely off and at a safe distance from the bus or vehicle, consistent with school district policy.

VIOLATION

Violations of these provisions may result in personnel actions against the school bus operator or employee consistent with school district/employer policies.

Private contractors employed by school districts for student transportation shall also adhere strictly to these provisions in addition to the policies of the employer.

BUS ROUTE INSPECTION

At the end of a student delivery, both during the day and after the final route of the day, a school bus operator shall complete the delivery, stop and park the bus, and insure that all students are off the bus.

Following each from-school route of the day, the bus operator shall complete the same type of inspection at a safe location a short distance from where the final student left the bus. If children are found on the bus, they shall be immediately returned to their assigned bus stop location or to an alternate location, consistent with district policy, with express permission from the parents.