

Cesar Chavez Academy/Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School
2500 W. 18th Street
Pueblo, Colorado 81003

July 26, 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians;

This document contains the rules and regulations for all students riding Cesar Chavez Academy/Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School buses. The intent of these rules and regulations is to provide safe transportation for your child to and from school. Please recognize that riding the school bus is indeed a privilege and not a right. We encourage you to review the contract with your child carefully.

Sign the last page and return it to the Transportation Department no later than July 27, 2007. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Alan Pence at 295-1623 x266.

Our goal is for your child to have a safe and successful school bus experience and with your help and commitment to safety, together we will meet our goal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lawrence Hernandez
CEO/Principal Cesar Chavez Academy & Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School

Regulations for Students Riding School Buses

All Students are required to have a bus pass in order to ride the school bus!

Meeting the Bus

1. Arrive at your bus stop 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. **Drivers have been instructed not to wait for any late arrivals and not to pick up students at points other than assigned stops.**
2. When approaching your bus stop, always walk facing the traffic. Do not play in the roadway, stand or place books and other articles in or near the roadway.
3. Do not walk beside the bus. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop and then walk to the front door.
4. If you must cross the road, follow these outlined procedures.
 - Wait on the left side of the road until the bus is stopped and the stop arm and crossing gate are activated.
 - Do not cross the roadway until the bus driver assures you that the roadway is clear of traffic by signaling you to cross the street.
 - Cross the roadway at least 15 feet or more in front of the school bus.
 - If an emergency situation exists after you have been signaled to cross, the driver will blow the horn to advise everyone to clear the traffic lane.
 - Never cross a four-lane roadway with a grass median to catch a school bus.

Getting Off The Bus

1. Remain seated until the bus comes to a COMPLETE STOP.
2. Leave the bus in an orderly manner and do not stop or stand near the sides or rear of the bus.
3. If you must cross a roadway:
 - Wait 15 feet forward of the exit door until all students crossing the road are in position to cross. Look at the driver.
 - Upon the signal from the driver, walk straight across the roadway.
 - Do not stop to pick up articles dropped in the road and do not cross back immediately behind the bus.

Generally, Cesar Chavez Academy and Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School considers the transportation of students to be a privilege to be enjoyed by eligible students and believes the safety of students to be of paramount importance. Cesar Chavez Academy and Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School have developed regulations governing student conduct while on school buses and in loading and unloading areas.

Suspension of Bus Privileges

Consistent or flagrant violations of regulations pertaining to student conduct on buses may result in the temporary or permanent suspension of bus privileges for infractions of those regulations.

Students may lose bus privileges temporarily at the discretion of the principal, directors, and the transportation director when he/she judges the conduct of a student to be detrimental to the safety and welfare of other students. Parents may appeal any suspension of bus privileges to the principal and if dissatisfied with his/her decision, to the CCSN Board of Directors.

If the student is suspended from regular bus service then privileges may also be suspended from the "activity" buses as well. If a student loses privileges from the "activity" bus then privileges are also suspended from the regular bus.

To The Parent/Guardian

Parents are expected to read the rules and procedures with their child. Any violation of these established guidelines could result in suspension of bus riding privileges and, in some instances, suspension from school. Parents will be responsible for their child's transportation to and from school in the case of suspension of bus riding privileges. Parents of elementary students are encouraged to see their child safely to and from the bus stop. If your child must cross a roadway, it is very important to make sure that he or she waits until the driver has given the proper signal to do so. It is very important that you understand that the school bus will not wait at your child's stop. Sometimes, during the school year, changes in bus stops or routes need to be made due to the safety needs of our students. All students riding a school bus are required to show their bus pass to the driver upon entering the bus. Those without a pass will not be able to ride the bus.

Permission to change buses or bus stops will be granted only when a request is written and signed by a parent or legal guardian. If you have any questions regarding the rules, policies or disciplinary measures stated here, you may contact the principal or call the Transportation Department. Parents who board the school bus to make a complaint are in violation of the State Of Colorado Transportation Department School Bus Safety Policy. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Rules and Regulations for Students Riding the School Bus:

The following are violations of bus rules and subject to disciplinary action.

1. *While you are on the bus, you are under the direct supervision of the driver and must obey him or her. The bus driver will assign each student a seat. Failure to obey the driver at any time will be considered an act of disobedience and will result in disciplinary action.*

2. *For your own protection, always keep your hands, head, and arms inside of the bus. Keep feet and books out of the aisle. Any object or instrument that cannot be held on the student's lap without blocking aisles will not be permitted on the bus.*
3. The use of obscene language and gestures or participation in any loud or boisterous talking or laughter is prohibited.
4. Fighting, horse playing or slapping at another student are violations of rules.
5. Smoking, striking of matches or the use of lighters is not permitted on the bus or in the loading area at any time.
6. General school regulations pertaining to the use of alcohol, drugs, knives or other weapons, use of profanity, obscene gestures apply to all students riding the bus.
7. Eating or drinking on the bus is not permitted. Drink bottles, other glass containers, and cans are not permitted. The sale of candy, cookies or other items is prohibited.
8. Students are not allowed to get off the bus at stores or other places and re-board the bus later.
9. No student is allowed to bring anyone on the bus that is not a student in this school system.
10. Students who wish to get on or off at a stop other than their own, or ride a bus other than their regular one, must have a written request from their parents or legal guardian, approved and signed by the appropriate school personnel and given to the bus driver. The written request must list the exact address of the requested bus stop. They can ride only if space is available.
11. Help keep the bus clean, sanitary and orderly. Do not throw paper or other debris on the floor of the bus or at another student. Do not throw articles out of the bus windows or doors.
12. Damages to seats or other areas of the bus will be paid for by the student or parent/guardian. Payment must be made or arranged before the student will receive bus-riding privileges.
13. Never tamper with the emergency door or any other controls on the bus. Opening or closing the front door is prohibited by anyone other than the driver.
14. Radios, CD players, and I-Pods etc... cannot be brought on the bus. The bus driver has the right and will confiscate these articles if brought on the bus. Items will be given to appropriate school administrator.
15. The playing of cards on a school bus is prohibited.
16. No live animals or pets are allowed.
17. Balloons or other objects that may obstruct the view of the driver are not permitted on the bus.

ALL STUDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW SCHOOL BUS RULES AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS OF RULES:

IF YOUR STUDENT HAS THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM RIDING THE BUS IN ONE QUARTER, THEN YOUR STUDENT WILL LOSE HIS/HER PRIVILEGE TO RIDE THE BUS AND THAT SPOT WILL BE FILLED BY THE NEXT STUDENT ON THE WAITING LIST. AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE IS WHEN YOUR STUDENT CHOOSES NOT TO RIDE THE BUS EVENTHOUGH THEY ARE PRESENT AT SCHOOL. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO FULLY UTILIZE THE BUS SERVICE. ROLL WILL BE TAKEN EACH TIME THE STUDENTS BOARD THE BUS.

INFRACTION/CONSEQUENCE

- 1ST Offense – Warning
- 2nd Offense – Suspension from riding the bus
- 3rd Offense – May lose bus privileges for the remainder of the year

A STUDENT MAY BE DENIED THE PRIVILEGE OF RIDING THE BUS AT ANY STEP ON THE BUS DISCIPLINE PLAN DEPENDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THE INFRACTION!

