

**BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 55
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
440 W JUDICIAL STREET
BLACKFOOT, ID 83221**

**phone (208) 785-8857
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TRANSPORTATION DISCIPLINE POLICY

If, in the opinion of a bus driver, a student violates the rules, regulations, and policies adopted by the Blackfoot School District Board of Trustees, or the Idaho State Board of Education, and the State of Idaho, the following discipline procedures are to be implemented.

The driver first gives the student reasonable verbal warning and an assigned seat. If the violation continues the driver issues the student a bus conduct report. The first offense, depending on the severity, is a written warning that is delivered to the bus contractor(s) liaison who in turn sends a letter to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) asking them to discuss the matter with the student. Copies of this letter are sent to the student's school and to the District Office.

Continued inappropriate behavior requires all further bus conduct reports to be delivered to the student's school administrator who then meets with the student and works to resolve the problem. The student is advised of the complaint against him/her and given an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident. When determining appropriate disciplinary action the administrator considers the nature of the offense, whether or not there have been previous offenses, and the attitude of the student. Contacts made and any actions taken are recorded on the bus conduct report. The administrator keeps a copy of the report and places it in the student's file and a copy of the completed report is forwarded to the district office.

An administrator may temporarily or permanently suspend a student from bus privileges if any of the following conditions exist, the following information is a shortened summary of policies, rules and regulations in effect for the Blackfoot School District No.55, a complete copy of the transportation policy can be obtained at the Transportation Department.

1. There are multiple offenses.
2. An offense is determined to endanger the other students and/or driver on the bus (which includes assault, threat, or willful attempt to cause bodily harm)
3. An offense is determined to cause undue stress because of harassment (which includes the use of profane language)
4. Students are fighting on the bus
5. A bus is vandalized, i.e., cutting, poking holes, pulling tape or writing on any seat of a school bus
6. A safety rule is violated, i.e., exiting or opening an emergency door when no emergency exists, not crossing ten (10) feet in front of the bus with a signal from the driver.

The Blackfoot School District Transportation Department's policy states a three (3) day suspension for a 2nd offense, a five (5) day suspension for the 3rd offense and a 4th offense results in a parent, administrator, contractor, transportation director meeting, which could result with a behavior contract or possible loss of riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.

If the administrator suspends a student, the parent(s)/guardian(s) are contacted over the phone or by mail. The transportation department at the district office is contacted immediately so the bus driver can be made aware of the suspension. According to Idaho Code 33-1501, a pupil may be denied transportation on a school bus, upon good cause being given, in writing, to the parents or guardian, or either of them, of such pupil.

Suspension of bus privileges are only determined by a school administrator and/or the Transportation Director. No student is denied bus privileges without being given an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident in question prior to disciplinary action being taken or until his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) are properly notified. Any student suspended from riding can not ride any other regular bus or any activity bus.

No student is put off a bus traveling to and from school or an activity, unless an emergency situation exists that endangers the safety of the other students. However, if a fight begins on a bus as the bus is approaching or before the bus leaves any school ground the driver may put the students involved in the fight off the bus and refuse them transportation. Bus duty supervisors then escort the parties involved to the school's office. School officials contact the parent(s) and or the student's administrator and notify them that the children need to be picked up from the school. The bus driver is responsible to provide a bus conduct report to the student's administrator as soon as possible. The Transportation Director, Resource Officer or Administrator can remove a student and request the parent/guardian to transport due to misconduct. The student, parent and appropriate administration will then schedule a meeting to discuss the situation and any additional consequences.

Children are required by law to attend school. Any student whose bus privileges are suspended is marked absent if he/she does not attend. It becomes the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to provide transportation to and from the school.

The deliberate destruction or defacing of the interior, exterior, or any other part(s), including the seats of a school bus, will result in immediate loss of transportation privileges (i.e., cutting, tearing, poking holes, and writing, marking on the seats or pulling tape off). Restitution or arrangements for restitution for damages must be made before the student's transportation privileges are reinstated. Such restitution arrangements can be made through the bus contractor(s) or the transportation office.

If a student knowingly attempts to assault, threaten or cause bodily harm to a school bus driver they will be disciplined according to Blackfoot School District No.55 policy. If a school bus driver is assaulted, threatened, or caused bodily injury the school bus driver will immediately notify the Transportation Director of any such action and the Director will contact the student's administrator and resource officer. The student will be denied transportation home the day of the incident, the student will be given the opportunity to present his/her version of the said assault to administration and the director. Suspension for any assault will receive a minimum of five (5) days suspension from the school bus and could result in loss of riding privileges for the remainder of the school year, even if this is deemed as their first offense. Criminal charges may be charged.