

BUS RIDER POLICY/REGULATIONS

Bus rider-ship is a privilege granted to all students who qualify by the De Soto Area Board of Education. All students riding buses have the right not to be subject to unsafe practices and discourteous conduct at all times.

Student Responsibility

All students have responsibility for exercising safe practices and courteous conduct at all times when coming to, waiting for, and while on or leaving a bus. All students have the responsibility for following correct procedures relating to field trips and/or extra-curricular activities. A list of specific rules and regulations will be given to each student by the bus driver at the beginning of the year.

School Policy/Regulation

General rules for bus riders: these rules are not all inclusive since not all situations can be anticipated before hand. Misbehavior on the bus can cause for distraction for the bus driver. Since safety is our prime concern, no misbehavior will be tolerated.

- Pupils will ride assigned buses only. Requests for exceptions shall be made to the principal in writing. Students will board and disembark at designated stops only, unless written permission is granted by the principal for deviation in a student's assigned stop. Parents will assume responsibility for the student when such a request is made and granted.
- Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment. Damage to seats or any part of the bus is vandalism and must be paid for by the offender with a report to the sheriff's department.
- Do not throw anything out of the bus window as this is endangering the safety of others.
- The driver is responsible for the safety of all riders and thus controlling the bus riders. They must obey him promptly and cheerfully.
- Always be courteous to fellow pupils, bus driver, the driver's assistant, and to passers-by.
- The option of having or consuming food or canned pop on the bus will be determined by the bus driver based on his rules and the behavior of the students.
- Any smoking, drinking, or drug use on the bus will result in restriction from the activity bus for the year, plus, suspension from school. Local police may be called by the driver/chaperon.
- Poor bus behavior, such as standing, head out of the window, disrespect toward the driver/chaperon, will result in suspension of riding privileges.
- The Bus Driver has the authority to establish further rules and regulations in order to insure an orderly, safe and well regulated bus ride for all students.

Wisconsin Statutes 118.15; 118.153; 118.16; 118.162; 118.165

Action

Unsatisfactory Bus Conduct Reports can result in possible safety and liability concerns. Students violating this section shall be subject to, but not limited to:

- Appropriate action by the bus driver.
- Notification of parents: Conference with parents, students, bus personnel, and administrator.
- Serious or repetitive offenses will result in suspension of riding privileges.

Students violating this section will be considered disorderly and be subject to, but not limited to:

- Referral to Alliance Committee
- Referral to Other School District Personal
- Reprimand
- In School Suspension
- Notification of Parents
- Out of School Suspension
- Citation
- Loss of transportation privileges
- Referral to Guidance
- Referral to Sheriff's Department
- Referral to Social Services
- Expulsion.
- Revocation of work permit
- Assignment to Disciplinary Restricted list

Late Bus

Late busses will be provided for students participating in after school activities. Routes will be established so as to provide efficient yet consistent transportation to the north and south areas of the district. Discussions will be made on a daily basis as to whether the late busses will run. Students who wish to ride the late bus will be required to sign up in the High School office by 1:00 pm each day. One or two busses will run depending upon the number and location of students requesting transportation. If no students sign up there will not be a late bus. **IF A STUDENT DOES NOT SIGN UP FOR THE LATE BUS THAT STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RIDE.** Each student should be able to make plans for the late bus by 1:00 on the same afternoon. Since this route is run primarily for extra curricular activities it will be run at a Zero Tolerance level for behavior. If a bus suspension occurs it will be for the remainder of the school year.

Bus Tickets

- Tickets will be sold during the lunch hour the day prior to the activity.
- Chaperones will have a typed list of students to board the bus.
- Students will not board the bus until the chaperone allows them to do so.

Return By Bus From Extra Curricular Activities

- School board policy is clear: "The school district furnishes transportation to and from out-of-town activities in a school approved vehicle accompanied by an advisor/director/chaperone/coach. There are occasions when return trips with parents or a parent designee may be acceptable. If a parent requests that their child ride home with a designated adult*, the parent must make the request, in writing, 24 hours prior to the start of the activity. This permission must be granted by the school principal, activities director, advisor, or coach**. A parent may request that their child ride home with them at any time. In all cases, parents or parent designee (1st degree relative or parent of another student of De Soto Schools) will have to be the party with whom the student is riding home. The adult giving the ride will present him/herself to the advisor/coach after the contest before the student is excused. Failure to comply will result in denial of the request and future travel restrictions and possible contest disqualification. Individual coaches/advisors may suggest that the participant ride home with the school provided vehicle."

"Designated adult" means another parent of one of our students.

- 24 hour prior approval means that the request is to be presented to the office and be initialed and dated by an administrator.
- At no time is a student to ride with another unrelated student.
- At no time is a student to drive to an activity or event, without prior approval, when transportation is provided for that specific activity/event
- Students must return to a pre-identified destination within the district if not getting off at school.
- If enough students sign up, a second bus will be engaged, the decision for a second bus will be left up to the administration. All school rules are in effect while a guest at another school. All school rules apply for all of De Soto School's students; 18 years old or over, married, or single must adhere to all school regulations.