

# SCHOOL BUS SAFETY...

## It's Everyone's Concern in Clover School District Two

Clover School District # 2 is authorized by the S.C. Department of Education to provide school bus transportation for pupils regularly enrolled within the district's attendance lines. The Transportation Office realizes that it is working with Clover School District's most precious resources—its school children. To help ensure safe, efficient transportation, parents/guardians and students should read the Rules of Conduct so they will know their responsibilities.

***Riding the bus is a privilege rather than a right for each student to enjoy.*** The Transportation Office will do everything within its authority to provide the safest transportation possible for the students in Clover School District # 2.

### Rules of Conduct

#### • **Waiting to Board the School Bus:**

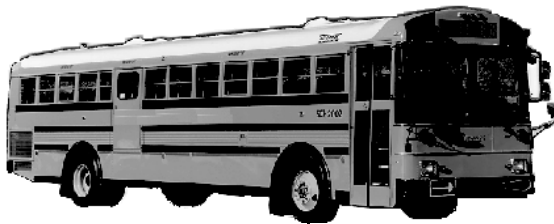
1. All bus drivers are expected to arrive at each designated stop within the same ten minute window of the set hour each day, unless there are uncontrollable factors (mechanical problems, inclement weather, traffic issues, misbehavior, or driver error).
2. Because school buses operate on a very tight schedule, students should arrive at the bus stop ten minutes ahead of the bus. Each student should be on time—bus drivers will not wait for those who are late unless it's during inclement weather.
3. While waiting for the bus, students and books or other objects should remain out of the roadway.
4. Students should wait in an orderly manner, remain in a line at least five feet from the bus when it stops to pick up passengers, and should move toward the bus only after the driver signals them to do so.
5. Students are asked not to damage property such as flowers, shrubbery, fences, or other items while waiting for the bus.
6. Students may ride only the bus they are regularly assigned, unless the school principal or the transportation director has granted approval.
7. Students are prohibited from bringing the following items on the bus: animals; drinks/food; glass containers; weapons; balloons; radios/tape players/compact disc players; skate boards; oversize items which obstruct the driver's view, block the aisle or exits, or displace a student from a seat; and any other item or object which will interfere with the safe operation of a school bus. [NOTE: Students may bring band instruments that they can hold in their laps and not obstruct driver view or displace another student's seating.] **Student IPADS and Laptop computers should remain safely in their bookbags. Water bottles should also remain sealed in the student's bookbag.**
8. Passengers are to be seated immediately and remain seated while the bus is in motion.

#### • **Riding the School Bus:**

1. The driver of a school bus is in complete charge of the passengers while they are aboard the bus and should be given the same respect as a class-

room teacher. Complaints against a driver should be directed to the school principal or the transportation coordinator.

2. Students should conduct themselves in an acceptable manner at all times. Profanity, obscene gestures, horseplay, throwing objects, fighting, and boisterous or other improper conduct will not be tolerated. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom behavior will be observed.
  3. Students will occupy the seat assigned to them by the driver.
  4. The aisle of the bus must remain free of books and other objects.
  5. Passengers should keep their arms, head, or other parts of the body inside the bus at all times.
  6. The driver's view—of the passengers and to the outside of the bus—must remain unobstructed.
  7. Students should refrain from talking to drivers except in an emergency.
  8. Passengers should not tamper with the emergency door, fire extinguisher, or other safety equipment on the bus.
  9. Students should assist the driver in keeping the bus clean by discarding trash in an appropriate trash receptacle.
  10. Students found responsible for damage, defacement, or vandalism will be charged for the damages in conjunction with other disciplinary action.
  11. Passengers should show respect for motorists or pedestrians passed on the route.
  12. Eating, drinking, chewing gum and using tobacco products are prohibited on school buses.
- #### • **Leaving the Bus:**
1. Students should remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. Upon arrival at school, students in the front seats will leave the bus first, and all will exit in an orderly fashion.
  2. Passengers are allowed to leave the bus only at regular designated stops. Temporary changes will be made with a written request from a parent/guardian and the approval of the school principal or the transportation director. Permanent changes require the approval of the transportation director.
  3. After exiting the bus, students who must cross the highway should go about ten feet to the front of the bus and wait until the driver signals them to cross. All students should promptly move away from the bus after exiting and should never go back toward the bus.



*Clover School District # 2 does not discriminate in program offerings or employment practices with regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. Persons with inquiries about such should write to the Clover School District # 2 Title IX Coordinator or the Clover School District # 2 Section 504 Coordinator at 604 Bethel St. Clover, South Carolina 29710.*

## Clover School District # 2

**604 Bethel Street  
Clover, SC 29745  
(803) 222-8022**

### General Information

1. Complaints or safety concerns regarding a bus or bus driver should be made to the Transportation Office.
2. All bus students are expected to obey the principals and teachers at each school their bus serves. The student's school principal will discipline students who disobey any school official on school grounds (which include school buses).
3. Because of most buses being at capacity or near capacity when all students ride, there will be no approval for students going home with friends.

These regulations were established for the protection of students, school officials, school property and the motoring public. Students who fail to follow these rules could lose the privilege to ride any York School District Number Two bus. When, in the judgment of school district officials, any bus student's behavior endangers the lives of other bus students and the motoring public, then that student can be immediately removed from the bus. Bus privileges will remain suspended until the student has had a conference with the school principal.

4. Bus drivers cannot suspend a student from riding the bus. Only the principal of the school the student attends or the transportation director can make this decision.
5. All students are subject to transportation laws, rules, and regulations from the time they board a school bus until the bus route is completed or until the students arrive at their normal destinations, either home or school.
6. York District Number Two intends to have a safe and efficient transportation system for all students. School authorities will take drastic action if necessary to accomplish this goal, although an open line of communication and the cooperation of all concerned should make such situations a rarity.
9. As a general policy, York District Number Two prefers to issue a stern warning to students who create safety concerns on buses. The district has, however, adopted some specific, written guidelines in regard to bus conduct and discipline. When handling cases of general misconduct on buses, principals and other district administrative officials will observe the following:

### State Laws Relating to School Bus Transportation

- To be eligible to ride a school bus, students must live at least a one and one-half (1 1/2) miles from the school which they attend.
- A school bus cannot leave the approved route to pick up a student who lives less than one-half mile from the point where the bus passes.
- School bus stops must be at least two-tenths of a mile apart.
- Bus drivers are required to drive only on approved routes and to make only approved stops.

### Request of Parents or Guardians

- Parents should report all traffic hazards, unsafe driving practices on the part of the driver, etc., to the transportation director.
- Parents should report all misconduct on school buses to the principal of their children's school.
- Parents should help supervise large numbers of students at bus stops.
- Parents should encourage students to observe all safety and conduct regulations established for the safe and efficient operation of the school bus.
- The Transportation Office encourages all parents and guardians to read the Rules of Conduct and stress to their children the importance of good behavior on the buses.

