

## **6560: Conduct On School Bus Specific Rules Governing Student Bus Conduct**

6560.1 Students who display any of the following types of behavioral patterns may, at the discretion of the Administration, have their bus riding privileges suspended and/or be suspended from school.

1. Damaging the bus
2. Damaging other students' property
3. Fighting
4. Abusive language to driver or other students
5. Rude, discourteous, or annoying behavior to driver or other students
6. Smoking
7. Violation of safety procedures
8. Excessive mischief
9. Littering the bus
10. Possession, consumption, or sale of drugs or alcohol
11. Distracting the driver by any means
12. Misbehavior at bus stop
13. Throwing of any article either in the bus, or throwing any article out of the bus.

6560.2 The bus company should provide each driver with a notice regulating student conduct on the bus and reasons for removal or loss of bus privileges. This notice must be posted in each bus as stated in Policy 6560.5.

6560.3 Bus operators must notify the building principal or administrator in charge of discipline when an infraction of the rules occurs. This notification must be written on the official "Bus Conduct Report" as prepared by the Central Office.

6560.4 When misconduct on a school bus becomes serious enough to warrant loss of bus privileges as listed below, the school principal shall notify the parent (by letter) of the suspension of bus privileges, the number of days, not to exceed ten, the time the suspension is to start, and the reason/s for the action.

6560.5 Suspension shall go into effect at the beginning of the next school day so that the student shall not be subjected to the hazards of walking home.

6560.6 Permanent or long-time withdrawal of bus privileges may be made only by the school committee after the parent and student have had an opportunity for a hearing.

### **Violation of Rules - Progressive Penalties**

6560.7 Suspension of bus riding privileges does not relieve the responsibility of the student to attend school. It is the responsibility of the parent to arrange transportation for their child to and from school during periods of suspension from bus riding privileges.

6560.8 FIRST OFFENSE may result in a warning which will be sent via certified letter to parents. If, however, the first offense is serious enough, it may result in suspension of bus privileges, as deemed necessary by the administrator in charge. This suspension will normally be for three days. However, based on the Administrator's judgment of the severity of the offense, this suspension may be for up to ten days.

6560.9 SECOND OFFENSE may result in suspension of bus privileges as deemed necessary by the administrator in charge. This suspension will normally be for seven days. However, based on the Administrator's judgment of the severity of the offense, this suspension may be for up to ten days.

6560.10 THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES may result in suspension of bus privileges as deemed necessary by the administrator in charge. This suspension may not exceed ten days.

6560.11 FOURTH AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE may result in student's name being submitted to the school committee for the purpose of seeking long term or permanent suspension of bus riding privileges as outlined in Policy 6560.4. However, based on the Administrator's judgment of the severity of the offense, the Administration may bring a student's name to the school committee for long term suspension on any given offense.

6560.12 Parents are responsible for restitution as defined by statute for damages to the school bus, or other properties as a result of their children's actions.

### **School Administrator Responsibilities**

6560.13 The school administrator should review the incident as written on the report with the student or students involved.

6560.14 All students will be informed of the specific policies or regulations that have been violated. Each student will be given the opportunity to present his or her side of the issue before disciplinary proceeding can take place.

6560.15 If the discrepancies are evident it will be the administrator's responsibility to complete his section on the "Bus Conduct Report" form.

6560.16 The administrator will then make three copies of the completed "Bus Conduct Report". One will be retained at the school; one will be sent home; the third will be mailed to the bus company involved.

Adopted: November 24, 1974

Revised: April 10, 1975

Revised: December 16, 1976

Revised: April 13, 1978

Revised: August 14, 1980

Revised: March 30, 1982

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