
AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Adopted August 1988
Revised May 1993
Revised September 2007
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APS Code: EEAE

BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

Safety shall be the primary concern when transporting students. If, in the judgment of any district administrator or driver involved, a route or trip cannot be safely made, the route or trip shall not commence until there is satisfaction that transportation can safely proceed.

It shall be the responsibility of the transportation training department to develop and provide student training programs at the K-5 level. The transportation training department will also develop emergency evacuation information for activity trips and will coordinate and supervise the bus evacuation program mandated by state rules.

Students or other passengers who violate established district rules for riding a school bus or otherwise interfere with the health, safety or welfare of others, either on or off a bus, may have their bus riding privilege suspended or revoked in accordance with Policy EEAE, Student Conduct on Buses.

The district shall comply with those rules and regulations adopted by the Colorado Department of Education pertaining to school bus transportation and rules promulgated by other state or federal agencies that affect school transportation operations.

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 42-2-123
 C.R.S. 42-2-124
 C.R.S. 42-4-236
 C.R.S. 42-4-238
 C.R.S. 42-4-239
 C.R.S. 42-4-608
 C.R.S. 42-4-612
 C.R.S. 42-4-613
 1 CCR 301-26, Rules 4204-4-200 *et seq.*

CROSS REF.: EEAEC, Student Conduct on Buses

BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

Page 1 of 2

The safety and welfare of student riders shall be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. Safety programs shall include the following:

1. K-8 student programs will be developed and incorporated to include instruction in the following: proper procedure for boarding and exiting from a school bus; safe conduct while aboard; courtesy at the bus stop; bus evacuation; pedestrian safety; and other subjects as needed.
2. Emergency evacuation training and drills will be conducted at least twice yearly, prior to October 30, to acquaint student riders with procedures to be used in emergency situations. All students riding on activity trips will receive emergency instruction prior to the start of the trip.
3. School bus drivers and paraprofessionals will receive training on pupil management.
4. A procedure for reporting eight-way light violations will be developed and coordinated by the transportation training department.
5. The transportation training department will work with individual schools and school groups regarding specific training or information needs required by students, parents and staff.
6. The transportation training staff will monitor bus routes and bus stops and provide re-training to select individuals when warranted.
7. Audiovisual recording devices may be installed and used in District buses under the following conditions:
 - a. notices will be conspicuously posted in buses advising riders that audiovisual cameras may be in operation. If actual audio or visual recording equipment is unavailable, dummy equipment may be installed in some vehicles;
 - b. annual publication of bus rules and regulations will include notice of such recording device installation and use in District buses;

BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

Page 2 of 2

- c. in cases of alleged misconduct by a driver or student(s), tapes/CDs will be retained until the controversy is settled;
- d. release of tapes to District authorities may include: the bus driver; members of the transportation department authorized to deal with recorded bus incidents; teachers of students involved; and other District employees involved in disciplinary decisions regarding either the driver or the student(s) involved or who have a legitimate interest in the information.
- e. under no conditions will tapes be released to anyone outside the District except as required by law. Such requests should be referred to the Director of Transportation, who is encouraged to consult with District legal counsel prior to releasing any such tapes.

The District shall comply with all federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of school buses and shall make these requirements known to bus drivers. It also shall cooperate with local safety officials in formulating and accomplishing its school bus safety program.

CROSS REF.: EEAEF, Camera Systems on Transportation Vehicles