

1 **FRANKLIN CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION AND ITS MEMBER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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3 **COMMON PROCEDURE FOR BUS RULES AND DISCIPLINE F2**

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6 **Statement of Purpose:**

7 It is the expectation of the Franklin Central Supervisory Union and its member school districts to
8 provide a safe environment on school buses transporting students to and from school and school
9 activities.

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11 **District Guidelines:**

- 12 1. Students who are residents of the school District will be transported to school either through school
13 owned buses or through a contracted bus service.
- 14 2. Students attending schools outside of the District will not to be transported under any circumstances.
15 The sending school is responsible for providing such transportation.
- 16 3. Established routes and schedules are intended to provide transportation sufficient to enable the
17 student to attend school. The bus routes shall include only recognized town and/or state roads.
- 18 4. Transportation of students, who do not come within the regular routes and schedules, will be
19 considered on an individual basis (on application of the parent to the principal or superintendent).
- 20 5. There may be instances in which the parent believes conditions exist which involve the student's
21 health and safety. The parents may discuss these situations with the principal or superintendent who
22 will investigate and present the problem to the school board for decision.
- 23 6. Students traveling to school on a bus are expected to return by the same bus unless other
24 arrangements are made.
- 25 7. Requests to ride on a bus other than the student's assigned bus will be considered based on the
26 capacity of the bus and prior arrangements are expected to be made with the transportation
27 coordinator. Students must also provide a permission note from a parent/guardian when they are to
28 take a bus other than their own or are to use some other means of transportation (including walking).
- 29 8. Once aboard the bus, students must remain on the bus until their scheduled destination is reached.
30 This means they may not disembark for an unscheduled stop and return to the bus.
- 31 9. Students may not bring anything on the bus that cannot be held on their laps. No animals will be
32 transported on the bus.
- 33 10. Cameras are installed on all our buses to assist in monitoring student behavior.
- 34 11. Students may be subject to additional requirements of a contracted bus service.

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36 **Expectations for Students**

37 The importance of proper conduct involving the bus cannot be overemphasized. This includes waiting for
38 the bus, boarding it, riding on it, and leaving it. Any behavior which distracts the driver endangers
39 everyone. In the interest of safety, all students should understand (and parents are urged to impress upon
40 their children) the need for following these rules:

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- 42 1. Follow the direction of the driver and all times.
 - 43 2. Sit facing forward in your seat.
 - 44 3. Talk quietly.
 - 45 4. Keep to yourself.
 - 46 5. No eating or drinking is permitted
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49 **Student Discipline/Misbehavior:**

50 Providing transportation to students for school and school functions is a privilege and as such,
51 students are expected to conduct themselves according to district expectations.

- 52 1. Maintaining student control on the bus is a primary responsibility of the driver.
53 Unmanageable behavior will be reported to the school Principal. Parents will be notified at
54 the discretion of the Principal.
- 55 2. In the event a student is denied transportation privileges for a period of time, parents will be
56 given notice by letter as well as by direct verbal contact when possible.
- 57 3. Should a student's behavior represent a serious or immediate threat to the health and safety of
58 fellow passengers and/or the driver, the driver will notify the school Administration and/or
59 return to the school. In these situations, a delay in transportation may occur.
- 60 4. The following bus consequences have been established:
- 61 • **1st violation:** A warning from the Principal/designee is given to the student and a call/letter
62 home is made.
 - 63 • **2nd violation:** The driver reports the incident(s) to the Principal/designee and a 1-5 day bus
64 suspension is given.
 - 65 • **3rd violation:** The driver reports the incident(s) to the Principal/designee and a 3-10 day bus
66 suspension is given.
 - 67 • **4th violation:** The driver reports the incident(s) to the Principal/designee and a 5-20 day bus
68 suspension is given.
 - 69 • **5th violation:** The driver reports the incident(s) to the Principal/designee and a bus suspension
70 of 20 days to remainder of the year is given at the discretion of the Principal/designee.
 - 71 • **Serious infractions** can result in immediate suspension from the bus at the discretion of the
72 Principal/designee.

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75 *Note:* Vermont education law states in part, "A student may be excluded from bus transportation for
76 disciplinary reasons by the Principal, and his/her parent shall provide his/her transportation to and from
77 school during the period of such exclusion."

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Legal Reference(s): 16 V.S.A. §1221 (Transportation of students)
16 V.S.A. §1161a (Discipline)
16 V.S.A. §1162 (Suspension and expulsion)

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