

P7311 SCHOOL BUS DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF SERVICE

BOARD POLICY:

Because of an overriding concern to provide safe transportation for students, the principal may deny, suspend, or revoke transportation privileges to individual students, groups of students, or an entire bus for continued disorderly conduct, persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the bus driver, or violation of the rules and regulations of Unified School District 259 and/or the Kansas State Highway Commission. When such action becomes necessary, the principal will notify parents of the students involved of the impending suspension of service. It shall be the responsibility of the Transportation Director to immediately notify the contract manager of the bus company to provide instructions as to the desired revocation of services.

Administrative Implemental Procedures:

1. Denial, suspension, or revocation of transportation to individual student or students
 - a. If the conduct of a student or students riding a bus is such that in the judgment of the bus driver the safety of the riders is threatened, the driver may stop the bus and request the assistance of police or security personnel in order to complete the route.
 - b. Principals have the authority to suspend an individual student or group of students from bus service for misbehavior as specified in the policy above. Parents of the student or students involved are to be informed by the most expeditious means possible, but a letter shall also be sent in each case outlining the nature of the problem and indicating the length of the student's suspension from the bus. The letter shall state what procedures the parents of the student must follow to have transportation restored to the student.
 - c. In the event a student is to be suspended for more than five school days, the principal shall notify the parent of such proposed action and shall, at the request of the parent, establish a time and place for a conference. Such conference normally shall be scheduled within five school days of the suspension and shall provide an opportunity for the student and/or parent to review the issues which led to suspension of the student or students from the bus service.
 - d. If the parent feels that the decision of the principal is improper, the parent may appeal the decision by requesting a hearing in writing within five days of the date of the conference with the principal. Such requests shall be sent to the appropriate Assistant Superintendent. The appropriate Assistant Superintendent shall hold a hearing with the student and parent and other individuals involved and shall render a decision in writing within five days of the hearing.
 - e. The time limits set forth above are to be considered maximum time limits. Every effort will be made to expedite hearings in order to complete the hearing process as soon as possible.

2. Suspension or revocation of bus transportation

- a. The principal has the authority to discontinue bus service if the principal has concluded that the conduct of students is such that safety of all riders is threatened, and the individual student or group of students causing the threat to the safety of other riders cannot be identified. The principal must contact the Transportation Director to provide instructions as to the desired revocation of services. After having been notified by the principal, it shall then be the responsibility of the Transportation Director to immediately notify the contract manager of the bus company to provide instructions as to the desired revocation of services. Every effort will be made to restore safe bus transportation as rapidly as possible.
- b. Prior to discontinuing bus service, the principal shall make every reasonable effort to resolve the problems on the bus. Attempts shall be made to isolate discipline problems, to work with individual parents, to provide temporarily an aide or security person to ride the bus, and to meet with groups of parents to work out solutions.
- c. If a bus is to be discontinued, parents shall be notified prior to such action. Generally, parents will be notified of the suspension of bus service by a letter from the principal sent through regular mail delivery or expedited mail service as appropriate. However, emergency conditions may arise which require that notices be carried to the parents by the students involved, in which case an official form containing necessary information will be used, and notice shall also be mailed to the parents as well as delivered by the student. Notice to the student with directions to deliver the notice to the parents shall be considered notice to the parents.
- d. Any notice of bus suspension will also describe the procedure parents must follow in order to restore bus service.
- e. A meeting for all parents may be scheduled before bus service will be continued. The purpose of the meeting will be to advise parents regarding the critical nature of the problem and to secure their commitment of cooperation.
- f. The driver and/or school security personnel must obtain approval from the principal before a suspension or change in bus service may be initiated.

Administrative Responsibility: Operations Division - Transportation Services

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