

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT

The Morehouse Parish School Board recognizes the operator of a school bus, together with the principal, to be in authority with regard to pupil behavior in or about the vehicle. School Board regulations regarding proper conduct on school buses shall be provided in writing to students and parents/legal guardians at the start of school each year. Any disorderly or unmanageable pupil conduct shall be reported by the bus operator to the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled. The principal shall be responsible for determining necessary disciplinary action. Bus operators may not administer disciplinary action and shall continue, except in extreme emergencies, to transport a pupil until disciplinary action is administered by the school. It shall be the responsibility of the parents of pupils, in such cases, to provide transportation to and from school during the period of any suspension/expulsion of bus riding privileges.

In all cases of suspension of bus riding privileges, the parent, bus operator, and the Supervisor of Transportation shall be notified by the principal in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of such decision, of the facts concerning each suspension, including reasons and term of suspension.

If the principal recommends the suspension of bus riding privileges for a student, the parents shall have the right to appeal such suspension to the Superintendent. A meeting shall be conducted by the Superintendent or his/her designee. The student, at that time, shall be given an opportunity to explain his/her version of the incident(s) to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The decision of the Superintendent/designee shall be final.

A pupil who causes damage to a school bus shall be subject to suspension from school and shall not be readmitted until acceptable provisions for restitution have been made for such damage or until readmittance is directed by the Superintendent.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING BUS CONDUCT

1. All schools shall be provided with the *School Bus Behavior Report Form*, which shall be completed on any occasion when a pupil's conduct on a bus is unsatisfactory.
2. In cases of severe misconduct, the principal or designee may temporarily suspend the pupil's bus privilege until appropriate disciplinary action is taken. The pupil's parents should be immediately notified of the temporary suspension.
3. Immediately after taking disciplinary action, the principal, or designee, shall sign and shall indicate the disciplinary action taken on the *School Bus Behavior Report Form*. Copies of the report shall be distributed to the pupil's file; to the parent; and to the driver. A copy of the report may also be sent to the Superintendent or

designee.

4. In the event of an appeal of the principal's decision by parents, a hearing may be scheduled by the Superintendent or designee.

Revised: March, 2025
Approved: June 3, 2025

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:81, 17:223, 17:416, 17:416.1; Louisiana School Transportation Specifications and Procedures, Bulletin 119, Louisiana Department of Education; Board minutes, 6-3-25.