

Students who create disturbances, bring contraband on buses, fight, assault others, or threaten violence will be subject to arrest by law enforcement officers.

Misconduct on the bus is subject to the same disciplinary measures as misconduct at school. **When a student fights on the bus he/she is subject to being suspended from school also.**

### **What if my child is suspended from the bus?**

Whenever a child is suspended from the bus they are suspended from **All** buses and it becomes the parents responsibility to see that the child gets to and from school while they are suspended.

### **Where can I call with questions about transportation?**

Feel free to call the Transportation Office at 864-279-6742 between 8:00AM and 4:30PM, Monday thru Friday.

**All Students attending schools in the Spartanburg School District Three attendance area should have an application for Bus Transportation on file in the Transportation Office.**

### **59-67-245 INTERFERENCE WITH THE OPERATION OF A SCHOOL BUS PENALTIES.**

No person shall willfully and wrongfully interfere with the operation of a school bus, either public or private, by boarding, restricting movement or using threats, either physical or verbal, to the driver or any passenger while the bus is engaged in the transportation of pupils to and from school or any lawful school activity or while passengers are entering or leaving the bus nor shall any person willfully fail or refuse to obey a lawful order of a school bus driver relating to the occupancy of a school bus. The use of threatening, obscene or profane language addressed to the driver or any passenger entering, leaving or waiting for a bus is disorderly conduct and any person convicted for the use of such language shall be punished as provided in 16-17-530 nothing contained hererin shall be interpreted to infringe upon the powers and duties of duly constituted authorities.

## **SPARTANBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE**



### **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS**

**381 CHERRY HILL ROAD  
SPARTANBURG, SC 29307**

**PHONE NUMBER 864 – 279 - 6742  
FAX NUMBER 864 – 279 - 6803**

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to safely transport the students in Spartanburg School District Three in a timely manner. In fulfillment of this mission, there must be no compromise. The safety, dignity, and needs of each child under our care are of the utmost importance, because we carry precious cargo!

## General Information

School bus transportation in Spartanburg School District Three is a shared responsibility of the State Department of Education (SDE) and the school district. This shared responsibility provides a transportation system that is safe, economical, and efficient. The SDE furnishes and maintains the bus fleet while the school district recruits, trains, and assigns bus drivers. Bus routes are developed by the district and approved by the SDE.

SDE regulations state that school bus stops cannot be placed closer than two-tenths of a mile. School bus routes cannot be altered to add a bus stop or move a bus stop unless a student lives further than three tenths of a mile from an existing stop.

Parents are responsible for student conduct and safety at bus stops until the bus arrives in the morning and after the bus departs in the afternoon.

A full list of state laws and regulations can be found at <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/Innovation-and-Support/Transportation/>

## Bus Assignments

Students may ride only the bus they are assigned to ride based on the location of their residence. Students may ride another bus only when space is available and written request signed by the parent/guardian and a note is provided to the transportation office or their school principal.

Students may not get on or off the bus at any location other than their assigned stop unless a written request signed by the parent/guardian has been approved by the Transportation Director and a note is provided to the bus driver.

## Conduct Rules

School buses are considered an extension of the classroom and student behavior on buses is required to mirror behavior in the classroom. Students are required to obey bus driver's instructions and bus drivers will report conduct issues to the school administration.

Talking is normally allowed on school buses however, students may not shout or talk loudly. Bus drivers may forbid talking when the volume of conversation creates an unsafe condition.

Students must sit facing forward and feet and legs must be out of the bus aisle. Students are strictly forbidden from extending any part of their body outside of the bus window at any time.

Students may not transport any item on a school bus that cannot be safely secured in the student's lap. This includes band instruments, science project, sport equipment, flowers, balloons and fund raising items. All items brought on the bus must be secured in the student's lap for the duration of the trip. No items may be placed in the aisles, under the seat, in another seat or on the engine compartment cover. Book bags with handles must be fully retracted. Students may not sit on any item nor any item behind them in the seat.

Students must not signal or communicate with people outside the bus and must not be disrespectful to motorists or pedestrians around the bus.

The use of cell phones and other electronic devices are forbidden on school buses.

Students may not bring open food or beverage containers on school buses. Any item forbidden at school is also forbidden on school buses.

Students are not allowed to stand while the bus is in motion. The maximum number of students in a seat is three (3).

Students must not damage or deface any part of the bus and must assist the driver in keeping the bus clean. Students may be required to close windows at the end of the day and during inclement weather.

Students may not operate or tamper with emergency exits or roof hatches and may not operate the service door.

*Students should be quiet when the bus stops at railroad crossing.*

## Bus Stop Safety Rules

By law, parents are responsible for students until they board the bus.

Students should stand away from the roadway and clear of traffic at bus stops. Students must not stand or play in the roadway.

Students should stand no closer than 5 feet from the bus and wait until the driver opens the door before moving toward the bus door.

Students must remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver opens the bus door.

Any student not showing up for their morning bus stop for 10 consecutive days (excluding special needs buses), must contact the transportation office to reschedule the stop.

## Consequences

Consequences for violations of conduct or safety rules are assigned by the school administrator. *Please read your school handbook carefully.*

If student conduct creates a severely unsafe condition, bus drivers are required to stop the bus in a safe location and restore order. In the event the driver is unable to restore order, law enforcement officers will be called for assistance.