

# Kalkaska Public Schools

## School Bus Rules & Policies

231-564-1518

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Students who are 10 years of age or younger cannot be left alone at a bus stop without a parent or guardian. If you are unable to meet the bus at the appropriate time, other arrangements should be made through the school and the student can be kept off the bus to allow for a different mode of transportation home. Always plan on being at the bus stop ten **(10) minutes** before the normal time. This will ensure that you will be there in the case the bus arrives early due to route changes.

After three (3) consecutive school days of not riding the bus, the bus will stop servicing the stop. After (5) consecutive school days of not riding the bus, the stop will be removed from the route. (This excludes arranged pick up days with Transportation. Example: Every other week riders.) If a student wants to get back on the roster, please notify the Transportation Department to start the process. If a student is sick or has circumstances that prevent them from riding the bus for three (3) consecutive school days, please call the Transportation Department and let us know the circumstances and the student's seat on the bus will be reserved.

1. Students should be at the bus stop early. Waiting for students to come from inside the house adds more time to the route. The bus drivers may not see you running for the bus if you are late and you could slip and fall under the wheels.
2. Wait for the bus in a safe place, away from the road. A car could hit you if you are too close to the road. **Wait until the bus stops and for the driver's signal before walking to the bus.** Students who are 10 years of age or younger cannot be left alone at a bus stop without a parent or guardian.
3. No student is to enter or leave the bus until it has come to a complete stop.
4. Students should enter and leave the bus carefully, using the handrail to avoid slipping and falling.
5. Each student shall be seated immediately upon entering the bus. Students are not to stand or move from place to place. Students are to stay seated at all times and face forward with your legs out of the aisle.
6. Indecent conduct, disruptive behavior, loud, or profane language will not be permitted.
7. Students should sit quietly in their seats and speak quietly to others near them. Do NOT jump up and down, fight or tease other passengers, yell, or shout on the bus.
8. Students are not to behave in any manner that infringes upon the rights of any other student, which includes threats or any form or type of bullying.

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9. Students are not to throw objects of any kind on the bus or out the windows. All parts of the body shall remain inside the bus at all times.
10. Absolutely no tobacco, vaping, alcohol, or illegal drugs will be allowed on the bus.
11. Students should gather their belongings and be ready to depart before the bus arrives at their stop.
12. Stay away from the bus if you drop or forget something. NEVER go back to pick up something in the road; get an adult to get it for you. If you forget something on the bus, you can always get it late.
13. Before riding a bus other than the assigned bus, **parents/guardians should call the Transportation Department** to be sure there is room on the bus. Students must have a signed note from their parent/guardian stating their destination. Students in grades k-8 should have their parent/guardian contact their school office for dismissal purposes. When students arrive at the bus they should identify themselves and give the note to the driver.
14. Students will not be permitted to bring such items as skateboards, radios, jam boxes, balloons, sleds, or glass objects on the bus. No object can be in the aisle; it must be on the student's lap or under their seat. Any other object deemed to be unsafe cargo on the bus will be denied. The driver will have authority to deny transportation of a student with such articles in his/her possession. The driver and/or the school bear no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items brought onto the bus.
15. Eating, drinking, or chewing gum on the bus is at the driver's discretion.
16. The privilege of riding the school bus may be denied to any student who does not conduct himself or herself in a safe and orderly fashion. School bus drivers and administration will determine what is safe and orderly. See above #1-#15. The bus driver reserves the right to assign seats for any or all students on the bus.
17. Adhere to any and all expectations or rules that are put into effect by the District or any entity that has authority to enforce rules, e.g. the CDC, Health Department, MDHHS, etc.

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By signing this you have read and understand the Kalkaska Public Schools Bus Rules and Policies.

Violations of these rules and policies can lead to students losing bus riding privileges. This page needs to be signed and returned to Kalkaska Public Schools.

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Parent or Guardian Signature

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Date

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Student Signature

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Date