

STONY CREEK JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION POLICY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Stony Creek Joint Unified School District (SCJUSD) takes the safe transportation of your child to and from school and all school activities seriously. To do so, we must have the cooperation of all students and parents in following all transportation rules.

Using school transportation to and from school and activity trips is a privilege, not a right, which will be revoked for any student who interferes with his or her safety or the safety of others. Students unable to follow the rules may also lose not only the privilege of riding the bus but also may lose the privilege of using school transportation of any kind, including transportation to school activities like fieldtrips and sports activities.

All drivers go through careful screening and ongoing safety training to meet rigorous California regulations and have broad authority to make decisions related to the safe transportation of all students on their bus.

The policy below has been approved by the SJCJSD School Board and will be followed for all students. All bus rules and routes have been designated by the Board and cannot be changed until further notice. All questions and concerns about transportation of SCJUSD students should be made to Alyson Cox, Transportation Lead, who will resolve the issue or refer it to the Principal/Superintendent, if needed.

- 1. Bus rules apply to students riding in any district vehicle and apply to all students being transported to and from any school activity, whether in a school bus, van, or any school vehicle.**
- 2. Riders will follow the instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times.**
- 3. Riders must be at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to the assigned time and stand in a safe place to wait for the bus. Littering, damaging and/or defacing a bus stop or the bus will result in suspension from the bus.**
- 4. The bus driver may not stop anywhere except at a designated bus stop and may not “double back” for students who are late. For safety reasons, bus drivers may not release students at an undesignated stop, even if asked to do so by parents.**
- 5. Students must enter the bus in an orderly manner, go immediately to their seats, and remain seated until the bus stops before directly exiting the bus.**
- 6. No part of any passenger’s body (hands, arms, head, etc.) may be out of the bus, nor may anything be thrown from the bus.**
- 7. No food or drinks may be consumed on the bus without permission.**
- 8. Serious safety hazards can result from noise and behavior that distracts a driver and students who make loud and/or distracting noises of any kind (yelling, screaming, whistling, loud music, etc.) may be suspended from riding privileges.**
- 9. Physically dangerous and/or distracting behaviors (standing, changing seats, scuffling, etc.) will result in a loss of riding privileges.**
- 10. Chewing tobacco, cigarettes, alcohol, drugs and/or dangerous objects are strictly prohibited from being on school transportation at any time.**

- 11. All students riding the bus must be well-behaved and courteous to the driver and other passengers. Profanity, rudeness, gestures, and other disrespectful behavior will result in a loss of bus riding privileges.**
- 12. Neither animals nor unusual objects may be transported on the bus without prior permission of the Transportation Lead.**

Because of the importance of student safety, bus drivers will use the following disciplinary consequences for students who fail to demonstrate appropriate behavior while using the bus or other school transportation. While the goal is a progressive disciplinary policy, bus drivers may use their discretion, and/or in consultation with the Principal/Superintendent, may choose a higher level of consequence for infractions of the rules. All infractions, including those receiving a verbal warning, will be documented in the student's file.

- a. Verbal Warning, parent called & loss of recesses and/or lunch detention.**
- b. 1-3 days suspension from all school transportation, including sports and field trip transportation.**
- c. 5-10 days of suspension from all school transportation; including sports and field trip transportation.**
- d. Removal of transportation privileges for remainder of the school year.**
- e. Report to law enforcement about student's dangerous or inappropriate behavior on bus.**

Transportation of students who lose their bus privileges becomes the responsibility of the parents or guardians. If students are not in school, they are considered truant and are subject to referral to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB). See the SCJUSD handbook for further information about the consequences of truancy.

Bus drivers have a 2-way radio on the bus in the event of an emergency or if they need to call for help. If a bus driver must pull over alongside the road to address a safety and/or behavioral issue, other people may not interfere and/or board the bus. Violators will be referred to the California Highway Patrol.

If you have any questions about the above approved SCJUSD Board policy or other concerns and questions about transportation of your student, please contact the Transportation Lead.

**Sincerely,
Alyson Cox
Transportation Lead
Phone: 530-968-5288
E-mail: acox@scjUSD.org
Stony Creek Joint Unified School District**