
Bus Conduct and Safety Rules

To insure the safety of students riding the school bus all riders must abide by MVUSD rules & regulations, Federal and California state laws.

Please review Bus Conduct and Safety Rules with your rider.

For the SAFETY of EVERYONE aboard, the driver must be able to devote full attention to the road. Unnecessary conversation with the driver or any creation of a disturbance is not allowed.

OBEY THE BUS DRIVER AT ALL TIMES

The SAFETY of EVERYONE depends upon the adherence to safe conduct by each individual.

1. Please arrive at assigned pick-up point at least five minutes, but not more than ten minutes before bus arrival time.
2. Use only the assigned bus and bus stop printed on bus pass a current bus pass must be shown and scanned every time a student boards the bus.
3. Orderly behavior is required at the bus stop. NOTE: As bus arrives, students must stand in a single file line at least twelve feet back from where the bus stops. Do not move toward the bus until it has come to a complete stop and driver has opened the door.
4. Students are to remain calm and quiet at all school loading zones and respect the property where they are waiting for the bus.
5. Students must always board the bus and find a seat quickly and remain seated. Riders must always face forward.
6. Shouting, yelling, boisterous behavior, unnecessary loud noises are not allowed.
7. Riders may not use profane language, obscene gestures or use sexual innuendoes at any time before/during/or while exiting bus.
8. All electronic devices, including but not limited to, cell phones, hand held games, radios, iPods, and iPads are not allowed out of the backpack.

9. Keep head, arms, legs and property inside of the bus. Yelling out of the window is not allowed.
10. No fighting, tripping, slapping, hitting, poking, shoving, intimidating looks, or threatening body language is allowed before/during/after riding and unloading bus.
11. No eating, drinking or gum chewing is allowed.
12. The following are not allowed at bus stops or on school property:
 - * Animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, insects, rodents, etc.)
 - * Glass objects, skateboards, scooters, aerosol cans of any type
 - * Matches, lighters, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, drugs, alcohol, prescription medicine, over the counter medicine
 - * Knives, switchblades, pocket knife, guns, scissors, rope, any sharp or pointed objects, pepper spray
 - * Pornographic material/literature
13. Littering and vandalism of the bus is not permitted. Throwing trash inside of or out of the bus is not allowed. Parents are responsible for all charges pertaining to acts of vandalism and property damage.
14. Shoes, shirts and pants/shorts/dress/skirt must be worn at all times.
 - * Cleats cannot be worn aboard the bus
15. No opening, closing or tampering with any part of the bus or its equipment. This includes windows.
16. Riders must follow their driver's instructions.
17. If rider crosses street, the driver will escort student across the street, in front of the bus, while the red flashing lights are activated. Driver will step out first. This applies to all school routes and trips with students in the district.
18. MVUSD buses & activity vans are equipped with cameras. Recordings will be reviewed if a safety concern arises.

Q & A's regarding School Bus Transportation

Q. My special needs child receives door-to-door transportation. Can my child walk alone between the house and bus?

A. Preschoolers and Kindergarteners must be escorted between the house and bus in the morning. In the PM the student will be kept on the bus until a parent/caregiver arrives at the bus door to escort the student to the house. Special needs students in grades 1-12 may not walk unaccompanied unless written instruction is included in the "Drop off Instructions" form the Registration Packet. Drivers have this information noted on their route sheet. In each case, an adult caregiver must be confirmed before the driver can depart from the stop.

Q. What if no one is home to receive my student when the bus arrives? Will the bus wait?

A. All drop off times are an approximation and therefore it is the responsibility of parent/guardian to be available from the time school is dismissed to receive the student. If a parent/guardian is not present to receive the student in the PM, the driver will be directed to proceed on route and return the student home at the end of the route. If no one is home to receive the student to the appropriate school or the Transportation Department, the parent/guardian is expected to respond immediately and pick up within 15 minutes.

- * Once the bus pulls away from stop it will not be able to return to your home during the route for pick up or drop off of your student due to time constraints.
- * We will return the student twice in a school year and are obligated to report the issue to your child's Special Education Program Specialist.
- * In the event of an emergency we will release to an alternative person if a parent/guardian contacts our Dispatch prior to drop off time.

Q. What is the cost of a bus pass?

A. Fees vary depending on the type of pass required. Most special education transportation doesn't require a fee, however, you must check with the Special Education Department to check on your specific fee

Q. What if my child is not ready when the bus arrives?

A. Per MVUSD policy and compliance of VC22112 your child is required to be at the curb side five (5) minutes prior to the stop time. If your student is not present the bus is instructed to continue on the route.

Q. Will my bus stop location or time change?

A. If it were necessary all riders would be given a notice from the driver. For the most up to date route information go to the District website or call 696-1600 ext. 1199.

Q. What about inclement weather?

A. Parents are advised to check the MVUSD Transportation for alternate stops.

Q. What is MVUSD safety rating on its buses?

A. Excellent!

Q. What about rules & regulations for riding the bus?

A. All students riding a school bus are required to abide by all safety rules set forth by MVUSD, federal and state of California laws. Transportation is a privilege, not a right!

Q. What type of communication do the Dispatchers have with the drivers while transporting students?

A. All MVUSD buses are equipped with state of the art communication devices, which is for the safety of our students and to determine where the bus is located.

Q. How are bus routes determined?

A. Routes are designed for safety, efficiency and conservation of time.

Q. Are seat belts required on school buses?

A. Only on large buses manufactured after July 2005. If a bus is equipped with seat belts they must be worn Pursuant to Title IV, California Code of Regulations, and section 14105.

Q. What safety measures are taken on buses without seat belts?

A. "Compartmentalization". Children are contained within a structurally reinforced passenger compartment of fully padded, high back seats and crash barriers.

Q. Does MVUSD have seat belts in their buses?

A. Yes, on the small "van-type" buses seat belts are provided. On the large "transit-type" school buses manufactured prior to 7-1-05, there are no seat belts.

Q. What Special Education equipment does MVUSD provide?

A. Youth booster seats, car seats, wheelchair lifts, tie down equipment, safety vests and safety seats.

Q. What if my child uses an adaptive mobility device?

A. All devices must be preapproved by authorized MVUSD personnel to meet FMVSS. If your child has corrective surgery and requires temporary mobility assistance, please contact Dispatch as quickly as possible to assess transportation safety and mode of transportation.

Q. What if my student is required to transport medication?

A. Nonprescription medication is not allowed on any school property. If your student is required to transport their personal medication it must be approved by the district nurse prior to riding the bus.

The **Edward Lanni School Bus Safety Act of 1997** requires all school buses in California to operate the flashing red signal lights when loading or unloading students at their assigned stops.

Parent Notice: (CF4119.43/4219, 43/4319.43 Universal Precautions)

If a student has a contagious condition such as ringworm, head lice, impetigo, vomiting, fever, etc. the Transportation Department will follow MVUSD health service guidelines by taking precautionary measures which may result in temporarily denying transportation until the student is medically released by our staff nurse.

MVUSD buses & activity vans are equipped with cameras and recordings will be reviewed if a safety concern arises.

In the event of an unforeseen emergency or natural disaster all parents will be contacted via MVUSD communication system.



**Murrieta Valley Unified School District
Transportation Bus Conduct and Safety Rules**

www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/Parents/Transportation

**Barbara Ortiz-Monson
Transportation Director**

**Murrieta Valley Unified School District
Support Center
41870 McAlby Court
Murrieta, CA 92562
951-696-1600 Ext. 1199**

**Dispatchers
951-696-1600 Ext. 1193 & 1189**