

HOPKINS ACADEMY BUS RULES

The School Committee, through its school staff, shares with students and parents the responsibility for student safety during transportation to and from school. To ensure the safety of all students who ride the buses, it may occasionally be necessary to revoke the privilege. Parents of children whose behavior and misconduct on school buses endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders will be notified that their children face the loss of transportation privileges in accordance with regulations approved by the School Committee.

A. Loading and unloading at bus stop:

1. Riders must be on time. Bus drivers will not wait.
2. Riders will enter or leave the bus at regular stops only.
3. Orderly behavior and respect for private property will be required.
4. Instructions and directions of the driver must be followed by the riders when entering and leaving the bus.

B. Required conduct aboard the bus:

1. Riders must remain in seats or in place when the bus is in motion.
2. Whistling and shouting are not permitted.
3. Profanity and obscene language are forbidden.
4. Smoking is prohibited.
5. The following disturbances are prohibited:
 - a. pushing or wrestling
 - b. annoying other passengers or disturbing their possessions
 - c. talking to the driver
 - d. throwing objects within the bus or out of windows
 - e. climbing over seats
 - f. opening or closing windows
 - g. leaning out of windows
 - h. littering the bus
6. Parents will be held responsible for any defacing or damaging of the bus
7. **There is no eating on the bus.**

C. Procedures for drivers and parents:

1. In case of any misconduct on a bus, the incident will be reported on the proper form to the school principal. The principal will report the incident in writing to the parent concerned, with a copy to the superintendent.
2. In case of a repetition by the same student, the principal will suspend the student's transportation privileges with written notice to the parent to report at once with the child to the superintendent's office.
3. If a third incident occurs, bus privileges will be denied the student and the responsibility for Transportation will then rest with the parent.
4. The administration reserves the right to impose any of these penalties on the first offense, dependent on its severity. A hearing will be held whenever this step is considered necessary, following notification of parents and the student involved.

LATE BUS PASSES

Riding the late bus is a privilege. Middle school students who stay after school for extra help, teacher detention, or school activities may ride the elementary bus, which leaves Hopkins Academy at approximately 2:45 p.m. **Students must obtain a late bus pass from a teacher in order to ride the late bus in advance. Since space is limited, students must sign up with the middle school team before 2 PM.** Students riding the late bus are not permitted to leave school grounds; doing so will result in revoked privileges. Only one name is allowed on a pass. The bus driver will collect these passes. High School students are not permitted to ride the late bus but exceptions may be made in extenuating circumstances with administrative approval. Any profanity, inappropriateness, or public displays of affection will not be tolerated and will result in not being allowed to ride the late bus anymore. It is expected that middle school students will be positive role models to younger students and represent Hopkins Academy in a constructive manner.