

POLSON SCHOOL DISTRICT 23
Polson, Montana

TO: Parents/Guardians of Bus Students

FROM: Polson School District Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We welcome you to a new school year and look forward to providing safe transportation for your child. Please take the time to review these expectations with each of your children who ride the bus to help ensure a safe and positive experience while riding the bus. While each rider is responsible for his/her behavior, drivers are authorized to take appropriate steps to maintain discipline. Demonstrating appropriate behavior will assist drivers in providing safety on the bus and allow students to continue their privilege to ride.

1. A student will only be allowed off the bus at his/her designated stop without permission from parent or guardian.
2. A student must have written permission from parent/guardian to ride a bus other than the one he/she is designated to ride as a regular passenger.
3. Students should be at the bus stop at least five minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.
4. Students must wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before attempting to approach the bus for boarding.
5. Students should line up in an orderly manner when boarding the bus.
6. Except for ordinary, quiet conversation, classroom conduct is expected while on the bus.
7. Waste paper or other debris will not be thrown on the floor of the bus or out of the windows.
8. Students must keep arms and heads inside the bus.
9. Students may not reserve seats on the bus. The driver may instruct the students on where he/she wants them to sit.
10. Students must remain in their seats while the bus is in motion.
11. Use of the radio is at driver's discretion. No tapes will be played on the cassette.
12. Use of tobacco in any form or food such as sunflower seeds and peanuts are prohibited.
13. Students may exit through the emergency door only in cases of an emergency evacuation drill or a declared emergency.
14. When leaving the school bus—and crossing in front of the bus—students will wait for the driver to give the “all clear” signal before crossing.
15. Buses are equipped with a video camera system to help ensure safety.

POLSON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Verbal warning from the bus driver.
2. Written student conduct report given to the School Administrator for progressive discipline.
3. Suspension from the bus as determined by the School administrator. When a student is removed from one bus, he or she will not be allowed to ride any other Polson Public School Route bus for the duration of the suspension.
4. Repeat Offenses may result in longer periods of suspension with the possibility of permanent suspension by the School administrator.

If a student or parent is guilty of Disorderly Conduct, as defined in 45-8-101 of the Montana Law Enforcement Guide, the driver will call the Transportation Office on the radio and request assistance from law enforcement. If the passenger is taken into custody, the bus driver will advise the Transportation Office, who will contact the School Administrator, so that a parent/guardian can be contacted immediately.

MAJOR OFFENSES: Immediate suspension without prior warning that could result in permanent suspension from the bus.

Some examples of Major Offenses are:

1. Fighting.
2. Abusive, disrespectful, or insubordinate behavior toward the driver.
3. Disrespectful behavior toward other passengers, chaperones, or bus aides.
4. Possession/or use of matches, cigarettes, lighters or flammables of any kind.
5. Use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
6. Possession of weapons.
7. Any behavior, which jeopardizes the safety of the driver or passengers.
8. Vandalism to the bus. The guilty passenger or passengers will be required to pay for damages before they are allowed to ride the bus.
9. Spitting on other students or the bus driver.

Safety is the number one priority with the Polson School District Transportation Department.
Thank you for helping to keep children safe.



Polson Students ...



	Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible
On the bus...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Stay Seated✓ Follow Directions of bus driver✓ Line up safely at bus stop	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Use a "1" or "2" voice level✓ Keep hands, feet, objects to self✓ Use appropriate language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be on time and wait patiently✓ Keep bus clean, pick up trash✓ Obey all safety rules