



2024/25 School Year Bus/Van Rider Expectations

Dear East Troy Community Families,

Please read the following Bus/Van Rider Expectations for the 24/25 SY and discuss each expectation with your rider. These expectations apply to all routes that students ride to and from school as well as field trips and extra curricular activities. We use PBIS- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports in the schools as well as on the bus. With this comes the following expectations:

Students to be respectful: Use level 2 voices (partner voices) and use appropriate language.

Students to be responsible: Sit in assigned seat and keep hands, feet and belongings to oneself.

Students to be safe: Stay seated and face forward, no food or drink, and listen to the driver's directions.

These rules are posted in the buses. In addition, here are some guidelines that are to be followed.

Arrival at the Bus Stop- Students should be at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to the designated stop time and 10 minutes prior for the first two weeks of school. Students should not run to catch the bus as they could slip in the road and get injured.

Assigned Seats - Drivers may assign seats based on age groups and family groups. In terms of age groups, younger riders will be assigned near the front of the bus and high school in the last seats of the bus. If they have siblings, they may be assigned with them. No more than three riders will be sitting at a seat on any given route. In most cases we will have two riders per seat. Riders should always stay in their assigned seat while riding the school bus. Adjustments will be made as necessary to space riders or family members that do not sit well together.

Proper Seating/Riding- Please explain to your child that sitting in their seat, face forward and not moving around the bus or leaning in the aisle while it is moving is the safest. On occasion drivers need to stop abruptly or make an evasive maneuver that could result in student injuries if they are not sitting properly.

Horseplay- Students should not throw objects around the bus as this is distracting for the driver and unsafe for the students.. Students are to keep their hands and feet to themselves and not stick any body parts out the windows.

Windows- Windows may be opened with the driver's permission, however the students must also put them back up when they get to their stop. Younger students may need to ask for help from other students.

No food or drink- We prohibit students from eating or drinking on the bus/van. Spills from drinks can spread quickly creating an unsafe condition. Not only does this become a distraction to the bus driver, the driver trying to attend to a spill would require pulling over and riders not getting to their stops on time. When food is brought on to the buses we typically find wrappers, crumbs and other messes left behind that then require more detailed cleaning.

Riders with large items to transport- A student with large items such as a band instrument or athletic equipment so large that they cannot keep it on their lap or secured in their seat with other riders assigned to that seat should try to seek another option for days they are transporting this type of equipment. Items such as these cannot be left in aisles as they cannot be secured and can become dangerous if the driver needs to stop abruptly or make an evasive maneuver. It also makes it difficult for other riders to get on and off the bus.

Bus riders getting off at unassigned stops- We get requests for students to get off at another stop to go home with a friend. We are willing to accommodate these requests on the same route; however, the request must be made directly to the rider's school office. Exceptions to this rule will be made in the event of an emergency or for babysitting



EAST TROY

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to the Growth & Success of Each Student, Each Year

TRANSPORTATION

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purposes. Requests for such exceptions shall be made to the principal in writing or by phone. The office will then notify the transportation department and we will then notify the bus driver.

For the safety of all of our riders, the drivers first responsibility is to be focused on their driving; however our drivers will do their best to immediately correct students not adhering to the above expectations. We have asked our drivers to report students after reasonable reminders. Please understand we are working with our drivers to help strategize and develop methods when handling these situations. Families of students not adhering to the expectations will be contacted by the transportation department via email and further infractions will be dealt with by their students' school. As previously mentioned, drivers become distracted when noticing riders not complying with the expectations, making it unsafe for all riders. Your help explaining this to your student will help us keep all riders on our buses safe.

We are looking forward to a safe and happy school year!

Thank you,

Rachel Neubauer
Director of Transportation