

TITLE: Activities - Conduct
State Board of Education Ref: 4371

Each school is encouraged to publish a student handbook so that school rules may be clearly stated, well publicized to all concerned, fairly enforced, and in keeping with current statutes and court decisions.

Hopefully, the handbook will prevent misunderstandings and develop a better relationship between the students, teachers, parents, and the school.

The teacher shall stand in the place of the parent or guardian in exercising authority over the school, and shall have control of all pupils enrolled in the school from the time they reach the school until they have returned to their respective homes, except where transportation of pupils is provided, the driver in charge of the school bus or other mode of transportation shall exercise such authority and control over the children while they are in transit to and from the school.

The teacher shall have authority to suspend any pupil guilty of disorderly, refractory, indecent, or immoral conduct, and the district board of education may expel or exclude any such pupil, if on investigation the conduct of such pupil is found to be detrimental to the progress and the general conduct of the school.

For the purpose of this section: (1) Pupil shall include any child, youth, or adult who is enrolled in any instructional program or activity conducted under board authorization and within the facilities of, or in connection with, any program under public school direction: Provided that, in the case of adults, the pupil-teacher relationship shall terminate when the pupils leave the school or other place of instruction or activity; (2) Teacher shall include principals, regular teachers, substitute teachers, teachers' aides, and other school employees or persons assigned responsibility for directing or supervising instructional programs or board approved activities.

NOTE: Bus Operator's Authority: It is clear that the law provides the school bus operator the authority to suspend any pupil guilty of disorderly, refractory, indecent, or immoral conduct.

The School Bus Operator Must Exercise Maturity in Implementing The Law

Persistent violation of the rules of discipline shall be reported to the principal by the bus operator on a form prescribed by the Board of Education. This form will serve as a record of the passengers conduct, of which one copy will be sent to the board of education and one copy to the parents. After the warning has been given, such disobedient passengers shall be forbidden by the principal

and school bus operator, the privilege of further transportation on a school bus for a designated period of time or until permission has been restored by the board of education.

Incidents of serious nature that may require action while en route must be handled by the bus operator through exercising his best judgement in applying appropriate disciplinary measure; however, a bus operator should not eject a passenger who violates transportation regulations unless it appears necessary for the safety and general welfare of the other passengers.

The bus operator shall not permit a pupil to leave the bus except at the regular designated stop unless by verbal request of parents to the bus operator or by written permission from the parent, signed by the principal.