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March 30, 2007

Dear Parents:

Recent unruly student behavior on buses, although isolated, has compelled me to write this letter to notify parents of changes as it relates to school bus discipline policy. Safety is the highest priority for our Transportation Department. In accordance with Education Code Section 39800, the governing board of any school district **may** provide for the transportation of pupils to and from school; however, a district is **not required** to provide this service. In an effort to ensure the safety of all students while riding Snowline School District buses, the following rules shall become effective April 16, 2007:

Egregious discipline violations (expellable offenses such as fighting, drugs, weapons etc.) involving a student(s) on a Snowline School bus shall be reported as soon as possible to the student's school and appropriate school discipline shall be applied. The student's parent shall be contacted on the day of the incident and requested to pick their child up from school. The student shall be excluded from bus transportation for the balance of the current school year effective with the next school day. In the event that a student is excluded from riding district buses, the parent assumes full responsibility for student transportation to and from school in accordance with the compulsory attendance law.

If warranted, expulsion proceedings may be initiated against a student as a result of their behavior on the bus. If expelled for bus-related behavior, the student shall be denied district transportation services for the balance of the school year. Students serving terms of expulsion for non bus-related offenses shall be allowed to ride district buses providing satisfactory behavior is maintained. Effective with the first bus infraction, the student shall be excluded from transportation services for the balance of the school year.


If a student utilizing district transportation services is involved in a physical altercation during the school day, the student shall be escorted to the bus after school and placed in an assigned seat for transport home.

Progressive disciplinary rules shall be applied for all students riding Snowline School buses. Effective with the eleventh (11th) day of bus suspension during the school year, students will be denied Snowline bus transportation for the balance of the current school year.

In order to provide fair warning, students having already accrued seven days of bus suspension during the 2006/07 school year shall be allowed five (5) additional bus suspension days prior to exclusion from transportation services for the balance of the current school year.

Thank you for your understanding and we appreciate your support to ensure the safety of all students.

Sincerely,



Arthur J. Golden, Ed.D.
Superintendent