## Students

## Student Behavior On School Transportation

It is the responsibility of the Board, within the limits of the law, to ensure that the behavior of students on school vehicles or at school bus stops will promote the environment necessary for the safe transportation of students.

The New Milford Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to establish and enforce uniform rules and procedures that will govern the behavior of students who are transported by a school vehicle to and from school and/or to and from a school sponsored activity. The rules and procedures shall be in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes and the guidelines set forth in this policy.

Parents or guardians are responsible for the behavior and safety of a student while on route to, from, and at the bus stop. Students at the bus stop shall behave in a manner that does not endanger the physical or emotional safety of self or others. Students who misbehave at a bus stop may, as a result, have the privilege of bus transportation denied as outlined in state statutes.

The Board of Education is responsible for student safety while students are in the Board's custody, that is, from the time a student boards the bus and until the student is discharged at the bus stop. The Board shall expect that the following general regulations will be followed:

- 1. The bus driver shall be in charge and treated respectfully by the students. All reasonable requests by the bus driver shall be obeyed.
- 2. Students shall remain seated until the bus is stopped at its destination and it is time for a student or students to leave the bus.
- 3. Students shall not tamper with any equipment that is part of the vehicle, including the rear exit door which is to be used only in an emergency.
- 4. All articles belonging to students, such as athletic equipment, books and backpacks, musical instruments, etc. shall not be placed in the aisle, in the driver's compartment, in the stairwell of the bus, or blocking any door.
- 5. Except for service animals that are individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability, animals of any kind shall not be allowed on school vehicles.
- 6. Disruptive behavior shall not be permitted and shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, suspension from school or suspension of transportation privileges; as well as payment for damage to a school vehicle as a result of the disruptive behavior.

## Students

## Student Behavior On School Transportation (continued)

The Superintendent shall establish the "Rules for Student Behavior on School Transportation" (5131.1); which shall be distributed to parents and students by the beginning of the school year.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance.

10-220 Duties of boards of education

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules

10-233c Suspension of pupils

10-233d Expulsion of pupils

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12102