

October 2009

Dear Challenger Parent/Guardian,

In order to ensure the success and safety of every child, the following school procedures and consequences have been established for all students who are granted transportation services. Students who ride the bus must understand that transportation can be taken away from them if they are unsafe or disrespectful in any way.

Please read and become familiar with this plan as it is aligned with school/district procedures and consequences. The district's Transportation Department requires each site construct a contract outlining behavior expectations of students on the bus. After reading the contract, please sign and date the bottom section of this form. The plan listed below is a binding agreement that the district Transportation Department, school site, parents, and students will follow.

Thank you,

Sheelagh Moran  
Principal

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**Bus Eligibility** - Only students who have originally enrolled at Challenger through the PISC or VEEP Programs are eligible for transportation services. Neighborhood students are required to provide their own transportation.

**Bus Problems** - Late Bus - Contact the district's Transportation Department at 858-496-8460.  
Lost Items on Bus - Contact the district's Transportation Department at 858-496-8460.  
Missed Bus - If student is going to be absent or late, contact Challenger's Attendance Office at 858-586-7001.  
Discipline Issues on Bus - Contact your child's counselor at 858-586-7001.

**Bus Rules**

1. Be at the bus stop on time.
2. Show respect at all times in your voice, tone, and body language.
3. Follow all school/bus rules and bus driver directions.
4. Do not get off the bus once you have boarded the bus.
5. No food or drink allowed on the bus.
6. Cell phones are not to be used on the bus unless there is an emergency. Students may use cell phones at the direction of an adult.
7. Have your bus pass ready every day. It is your school ID card with a bus sticker. Students who do not have a bus pass may not be allowed on the bus and parent will have to pick the student up from school. Temporary bus passes are only issued before school or at lunch.
8. If you lose your ID card, you must purchase a replacement for \$5.00. Challenger will give you the first ID card for free.

If these policies and/or procedures are violated, a staff member and bus driver will apply the following supports in a consistent manner. Repeated loss of bus pass will result in lunch clean-up and/or detention. For complete set of rules and policies, see the booklet "Information about Your School Bus Service" published by San Diego Unified School District and distributed at the beginning of the year with your bus stop information.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Warning, parent contacted
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Seat Change, parent contacted and student is issued consequences
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Bus referral to counselor

If a student does not follow the assigned consequences, the student will advance to the next step in the list of consequences.

*Consequences for not following bus rules may include the following:*

- After-school detention, in-school suspension, lunch detention, lunch clean-up, suspension from riding bus
- A parent conference may be held at any time

If an incident occurs and the ensuing investigation does not reveal the student(s) responsible, the entire bus will be held responsible and will receive consequences. Students have opportunities to discuss information privately with staff members (teachers, counselors, vice-principal). They are encouraged to report problems on the bus.

**Bus - Staying After School** - Students who ride the bus may only stay after school to ride the late bus if they have school business such as EDRP/EDMP (after school reading or math class), P.E. make-ups, a club meeting, intramural sports, or tutoring. The student must have parent permission and teacher permission before staying after school. Students must remain with the teacher until the after school bus pickup time. Students are not allowed to leave campus and then return to take the late bus. Not all transportation routes have a close bus stop. Students should check the late bus stop list before staying after school. If a student stays late without permission, a parent may be required to pick the student up from school.

**Bus Stop Changes** - Changes in bus stops can only be made through written request of the parent to Challenger's Bus Liaison. This process takes two weeks to implement. Students are only allowed to get on and off at their assigned bus stop.

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Please return this section to the student's advisory teacher by Friday, October 16, 2009. If this form is not returned, the student will not be able to ride the bus until the form is completed and returned.

- Thank you for your cooperation!

*I have read this document with my child and we both understand the procedures and consequences of any unsafe or disrespectful behaviors displayed while riding the bus.*

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_