Responsibilities of the Student

Statement:

Students accessing transportation provided by DSTS and the School Board must do so safely and responsibly, acknowledging that transportation is a privilege which may be revoked if misused.

DSTS Transportation cards are provided for students and are to be used daily for boarding and exiting the bus. Students continue to use the same card throughout their school career as long as they remain eligible for student transportation services, and they remain within the same school board. New cards are not provided annually. Families of students that have not been riding the bus consistently, will receive an automated phone notification, and their names will be removed from the bus manifest. If a student is removed from the bus manifest, families may contact DSTS at any time if they intend to use transportation services on a regular basis (905-666-6395) and 3-5 business days are required to reinstate transportation.

While waiting for the bus, students must:

- Be at the bus stop no later than five (5) minutes before the scheduled arrival time of the bus, the bus cannot wait for late arrivals.
- Always keep a safe distance from the road or street while waiting for the bus.
- Respect other people's property and belongings while waiting for the school bus.
- Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the stop arm and stop sign are fully extended before moving forward to board the bus.
- If students must cross the road to board the bus, wait until the bus arrives and all traffic has stopped; then wait for the signal from the bus driver before crossing and walk, never run.
- Never run behind or in front of the bus to pick up something that was dropped in the danger zone.
- Have the DSTS Transportation card ready to scan when boarding and exiting the bus and hold on to the handrail while boarding or exiting.
- Do not touch the bus tablet screen while boarding, exiting, or at any other time while on the bus.
- Be able to identify their bus stop location.
- Learn the name of the bus company and the bus number to avoid getting on the wrong bus.

While on the bus, students must:

- Be responsible to the principal for their conduct on the bus.
- Act appropriately so as not to endanger the safety of themselves or others.
- Take a seat as quickly as possible and, if applicable, go to the seat assigned to them.
- Always remain seated, facing forward, with back against the seat cushion and legs facing toward the front of the bus.
- Avoid distracting or speaking to the bus driver except in an emergency.
- Keep aisles clear of backpacks and other belongings.
- Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus.
- Treat the driver with respect and follow instructions when asked.
- Always be courteous and respectful to others on the bus.
- Smoking, drinking alcohol, vaping, or using drugs is strictly prohibited.
- Keep entire body and belongings inside the bus; do not open windows without permission.
- Refrain from bringing items that are overly large, dangerous, illegal, or offensive. Service animals approved by the school board and DSTS may ride the bus.
- Be liable for any deliberate damage done to the bus.
- Only board the assigned bus and board or exit only at the designated stop.
- Take all personal belongings when leaving the bus.
- Remain seated until the bus comes to a full stop.
- Walk to the front of the bus and have the DSTS card ready to scan.
- Refrain from inappropriate behavior such as throwing items, swearing, fighting, or bullying.
- Do not touch safety equipment or emergency exits unless it is an emergency.

After getting off the school bus, students must:

- Be aware of surroundings, refrain from using electronic devices, and remove headphones when exiting.
- If usually met by a family member or designate, let the driver know if they are not present.
- If required to cross the road, move five (5) to eight (8) paces away from the front of the vehicle and wait for the driver's signal before crossing.
- Always watch for traffic before crossing the street.