

FALL RIVER JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regulation 3542

BUSINESS AND NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

School Bus Drivers

Authority

Students transported in a school bus or in a student activity bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus. The driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the students while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road. (5 CCR 14103)

A bus driver shall have the authority to discontinue the operation of a school bus whenever he/she determines that it is unsafe to continue.

Administrative regulations related to bus driver authority shall be made available to parents/guardians, students, teachers and other interested parties. (5 CCR 14103)

Qualifications, Training and Monitoring

All drivers employed to operate school buses or student activity buses shall possess, at a minimum, both of the following documents issued by the state Department of Motor Vehicles: (Education Code 39830.1; Vehicle Code 12517)

1. A valid driver's license for the appropriate class of vehicle to be driven
2. A certificate which permits the driver to operate either school buses or student activity buses, as applicable

The Superintendent or designee may use an electronic fingerprinting system, managed by the California Department of Justice, to fingerprint an applicant for an original certificate to drive a school bus or student activity bus. (Vehicle Code 12517.3)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school bus drivers receive training which includes:

1. First aid practices (Vehicle Code 12522)
2. The proper actions to be taken in the event that a school bus is hijacked (Education Code 39831)
3. The proper installation of mobile seating devices in the bus securement systems (Education Code 56195.8)

School bus drivers shall be subject to drug and alcohol testing in accordance with Governing Board policy and the requirements of federal law.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Department of Motor Vehicles within five days whenever any school bus driver has tested positive for drugs or alcohol, is dismissed for a cause related to student transportation safety, or whenever a driver so dismissed has been reinstated. (Vehicle Code 1808.8, 13376)

Responsibilities

The school bus driver's primary responsibility is to safely transport students to and from school and school activities. He/she shall follow procedures contained in the district's transportation safety plan.

The driver shall not require any student to leave the bus en route between home and school or other destinations. (5 CCR 14103)

The driver shall stop to load or unload students only at school bus stops designated by the Superintendent or designee, or authorized by the Superintendent or designee for school activity trips. (Vehicle Code 22112)

The driver shall activate the amber warning light system, flashing red signal lights and stop arm signal and shall escort students in accordance with Vehicle Code 22112.

The driver shall immediately report all school bus accidents to the California Highway Patrol, the Superintendent or designee, and the driver's employer. (13 CCR 1219)

The driver also shall report the following to the Superintendent or designee:

1. Recurring and serious student misbehavior
2. Parental and student complaints
3. Traffic violations
4. Consistently late school dismissals which cause transportation delays
5. Overload runs
6. Mechanical or other problems with buses and equipment

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

39830-39842 School buses

40080-40090.5 Training required to obtain or renew bus driver certificate

45125.1 Criminal background checks for contractors

56195.8 Training in installation of mobile seating devices

PENAL CODE

241.3 Assault against school bus driver

243.3 Battery against school bus driver

VEHICLE CODE

1808.8 Dismissal for safety-related cause

2570-2575 Transportation of students

12517-12517.4 Certification requirements

12522 First aid training for school bus drivers

13376 Driver certificates; revocation or suspension; sex offense prosecution

22112 School bus signals; roadway crossings

25257 School bus; flashing light signal system

25257.2 School bus used for transportation of developmentally disabled person

34501.6 School buses; reduced visibility

34508.5 Investigation of accidents
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
14103 Authority of the driver
14104 School bus driver instructor
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13
1200-1228 General provisions, school bus regulations
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 49
571.222 Federal motor vehicle safety standard #222
Management Resources:
WEB SITES
California Highway Patrol: <http://www.chp.ca.gov>
California Department of Motor Vehicles: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov>
California Department of Justice: <http://caag.state.ca.us>

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Regulation revised: 4/86, 6/2/93, 3/4/98, 12/1/99, 9/7/05



School Bus Driver Training Agreement

The Fall River Joint Unified School District has provided you with a training/licensing opportunity to drive bus. To protect the Fall River Joint Unified School District investment of time and money, you agree to all of the following:

1. At the completion of your training requirements you will be a substitute bus driver for the Fall River Joint Unified School District for the period of one year after the date of completion. The Fall River Joint Unified School District will provide you with as many substitute hours as possible. You may accept driving assignments from other districts as long as they do not conflict with the Fall River Joint Unified School District assignments. Your substitute assignment with the Fall River Joint Unified School District will always take priority over other offers of work.
2. Prior to accepting an assignment with another district, you will check with the Fall River Joint Unified School District dispatch staff to be sure that you are not needed as a driver for the Fall River Joint Unified School District during that time frame.
3. The Fall River Joint Unified School District shall pay you a training stipend in the amount of \$1,500. This stipend shall be paid in two installments, \$750.00 for the successful completion of the training process and \$750.00 upon completion of one year of active service from the completion date as a substitute bus driver. Successful completion is defined as completing all tests, physicals, background checks, and trainings: you are officially prepared and cleared to transport students in a school bus. The district reserves the right to determine who is to be trained as well as the number of trainees.
4. If, for any reason, you are unable to remain in the position of substitute school bus driver for one year after completion of all requirements, you will be expected to return the original stipend amount of \$750.00 to the Fall River Joint Unified School District. You agree that all of the \$750.00 shall be withheld from your last payroll warrant(s) in order to reimburse the FRJUSD. This clause will not be in effect if you are hired into a probationary school bus driving position with the Fall River Joint Unified School District. If you are hired into a probationary School Bus Driver assignment with the Fall River Joint Unified School District, you will not be required to repay any portion of the \$1,500.00 stipend.
5. The district reserves the right to terminate this agreement at any time.

By signing below you are agreeing to the terms of this Training Agreement.

Substitute School Bus Driver in Training

Date

Superintendent of Designee

Date