

# VISTA Charter Middle School

## *School-wide Code of Conduct*

### *Bus Rules*

At VISTA Charter Middle School, it is our privilege and pleasure to furnish students with the safest transportation possible as they travel between home and school and on school-related trips. In order to protect all students riding school buses while on VISTA school trips, safety precautions are a must! Your help is needed because safety is everyone's responsibility!

Students, when you are on the school bus, we expect you to behave as if you were in one of VISTA's classrooms.

All students are to understand that the bus driver is in charge of the bus at all times. Any student who repeatedly violates the safety precautions and/or bus rules may be denied the privilege of riding the bus and is subject to other disciplinary action to be determined by the principal. To that end, the following conduct rules are called to your attention:

1. Students must arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. The bus will not wait. **The bus will leave SMBCCS at 7:30 am.**
2. Students must wait quietly outside of SMBCCS, clear of traffic and away from the bus stop.
3. Student behavior at bus stops must not threaten life, limb or property of any individual.
4. Students must go directly to a seat designated by VISTA personnel.
5. Students must remain seated, keeping aisles and exits clear.
6. Students must observe classroom conduct. All school rules apply on the bus. Obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
7. Students must be courteous and respectful to fellow students and to the bus driver.
8. Students must not engage in loud talking or laughing, excessive horseplay, or fighting.
9. Students need to understand that unnecessary confusion diverts the driver's attention and might result in a serious accident, thus threatening their own safety.
10. Students must not use profane or abusive language.
11. Students must refrain from chewing gum, eating and drinking on the bus except as required for medical reasons.

12. Students must not use tobacco, or related products, on the bus.
13. Students must not have alcohol or drugs in their possession on the bus except for prescription medication required for student.
14. Students must not throw or pass objects on, from or into the bus.
15. Students must treat bus equipment as one would treat valuable furniture in his or her home. Vandalism will not be tolerated. Keep the bus clean and sanitary.
16. Students must not extend any part of their bodies out of the bus windows.
17. Students are to remain absolutely quiet at railroad crossings until the bus has completely crossed and the driver says it is okay to talk.

### **Driver's responsibility prior to written conduct report:**

- 1 Drivers will confer with the student and/or change the student's seating assignment.
- 2 Drivers are *to contact the principal* after repeated warnings have not been heeded.  
(Doing so is a proven, effective way of managing student behavior.)

### **Most Importantly:**

Students must avoid behaviors that disrupt the driver's concentration or behavior that may cause harm to the student or others. These include include, but are not limited to:

- 1 Loud talking (at any time) or talking at railroad crossings
- 2 Moving around the bus or out of the seat
- 3 Pushing/touching/disrupting others
- 4 Repeated tardiness to the bus
- 5 Disrespect to other students or the driver
- 6 Harassment of other students
- 7 Not following the reasonable request of the driver
- 8 Use of profanity
- 9 Possession of a match or lighter
- 10 Eating or drinking (food or gum) on the bus
- 11 Tampering with emergency equipment or doors
- 12 Littering or throwing objects from the bus
- 13 Any other infraction of the building's student behavior code

## Consequences for Bus Rules Infractions:

<b>First Written Report</b>	Principal Action
<b>Second Written Report</b>	1 day off bus
<b>Third Written Report</b>	3 days off bus
<b>Fourth Written Report</b>	No bus transportation