

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES

ADOPTED: February 23, 2004

REVISED:

ANTIETAM SCHOOL DISTRICT

810.2. VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES	
1. Purpose	It shall be the policy of the district that student safety and management have as their objective the securing of desirable behavior on the part of all students riding the bus. The school bus is an extension of the classroom. The school day begins when the student enters the bus and the school day ends when the student leaves the bus.
2. Authority	The district will communicate and enforce procedures to be followed by students when they are riding the bus. District disciplinary policies include student behavior and discipline on the school bus. Rules can be enforced only with the cooperation of every person concerned with transportation. Observance of these rules will ensure safety, prompt arrivals and departures of buses, and proper attitudes on the part of students. Violations of these rules may result in the suspension of bus riding privileges or other sanctions.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The school bus driver is responsible for the health, safety and welfare of each passenger while in transit. The school bus driver has the same type of responsibility for the student as the classroom teacher.</p> <p>Student behavior on the school bus and the driver's management of the behavior are the two (2) key elements to a safe and enjoyable bus ride. The video camera on a school bus is but an aid to monitor bus behavior. It does not replace the discipline policy, the authority of the driver or the responsibility of the school officials. The basic "School Bus Rules and Regulations" must prevail and the consequences of misconduct must be carried out in accordance with state and local regulations.</p>
4. Guidelines	<p><u>Procedures</u></p> <p>Video observation systems have been placed in district contracted buses and are the property of the district. All students shall be informed and stickers placed in each bus warning them that they are subject to being videotaped on the school bus at any time. The actual taping shall be video only. Videotaping is meant to augment the written disciplinary reports by the bus driver, not take the place of reports.</p>

Pol. 216, 810	<p><u>Screening</u></p> <p>Tapes produced by the video monitors will be reviewed by school administrators for the purpose of determining whether disciplinary consequences are appropriate. Videotapes capturing inappropriate behavior may be used at conferences with parents/guardians, students, bus contractors, drivers and employees and as evidence at student disciplinary proceedings. Bus contractors and/or drivers will be invited to view, at the discretion of the administrator in charge.</p> <p><u>Discipline</u></p> <p>Building principals will determine the appropriate discipline for violations of the district's student disciplinary policy based on bus driver referrals, meeting with the student(s), and review of the videotape. All disciplinary actions will be in accordance with the district transportation policy and the student discipline policy.</p> <p><u>Viewing Request</u></p> <p>A request for viewing a videotape can be made by a driver/contractor with the intent to observe a given problem, incident or situation and in an effort to work towards a resolution of that problem or incident.</p> <p>All requests shall be made in writing by completing a "Request for Viewing Bus Video" form available in the transportation coordinator's office.</p> <p><u>Viewing Location</u></p> <p>Bus videotapes may be viewed only in the office of the elementary principal, middle-senior high school principal, and/or transportation coordinator under the guidelines shown in Viewing Request.</p>
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