

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

The safe and efficient operation of school buses requires the cooperation of students and parents. Riding to and from school on the bus is a privilege, and each student is expected to respect the **rights and safety** of others on the bus. While the students are being transported, **the bus driver is at all times, in full charge of the bus and all students riding therein.**

**Failure to comply with the following rules for the conduct of the pupils on buses may result in suspension of the bus privileges.**

The following school bus behavior requirements are presented to promote the safety and comfort of all students while traveling to and from Eastern Suffolk BOCES centers.

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and students.
2. Smoking, the use of drugs, alcohol, or any other contraband is **PROHIBITED.**
3. Use of obscene language, throwing of objects in the bus, or horseplay of any kind will **not** be permitted.
4. Students are **not** permitted to extend their arms, head, or other objects out an open window.
5. Only students authorized by BOCES may be permitted to ride school buses.
6. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion and may not be allowed to enter or to leave the bus while the vehicle is in motion.
7. Students are required to follow reasonable instructions given by the driver to ensure safe and secure transportation of all students.
8. Bus aisles **must** be kept clear at all times; any class projects **have to be approved by the BOCES Center** in order to be transported home on the bus/van.
9. Drivers are required to file a written incident report on all unacceptable or dangerous behaviors by students. **All threats of violence towards students, staff and/or facilities must be reported immediately to the BOCES Center.**
10. Buses are not permitted to leave BOCES Centers until signaled to do so by the supervising teacher or administrator on duty.
11. All passengers must exit out the front door. The emergency exit is not to be used except in emergency situations.
12. Drivers are not permitted to discharge student passengers at any point along bus routes. Students should be discharged only at BOCES Centers, at their home high school, or at BOCES approved intermediary points.

Students crossing the street should cross approximately ten feet in front of the bus in view of the driver and only after receiving his/her signal to do so.

