

VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES

The board authorizes the use of video cameras on district-operated school buses for the purpose of reducing discipline problems, thus providing a safer environment for the transportation of students. The reason for recording the transportation environment is to provide school officials, drivers and parents/guardians/custodians with documentation when dealing with inappropriate student behavior. Disciplinary action will be in accordance with policies and procedures on Student Responsibilities and Rights.

The superintendent or his/her designee shall prepare procedures for use of the video equipment on buses, the authorized review process for videotapes and the proper disposal of tapes.

Adoption Date: 04/18/00
Revised: 02/15/05

Video Cameras on Buses

Placement of Cameras:

1. Cameras shall be authorized for use in buses by the supervisor of transportation. The bus driver shall be notified of the placement in his/her bus.
2. Drivers may request that a camera be placed in their buses. The supervisor of transportation shall discuss the reason for the request with the driver and shall decide if and when a camera shall be placed in the bus by special request.
3. Building principals may request the supervisor of transportation to authorize placement of a video camera in a bus when they have reason to believe that a problem exists.
4. All buses where cameras may be utilized shall have signs notifying riders that video cameras may be in use.

Use of the Recorded Tapes:

1. When the bus returns to the garage, the transportation department foreman/mechanic or supervisor shall remove the tape and retain it in a secure location for up to five (5) working days unless it is needed to support a disciplinary action.
2. The bus driver shall be reminded that the camera was on his/her bus. If the driver wishes to view the tape, a time shall be set for this purpose.
3. The transportation supervisor may view the tape with or without the driver.
4. If a serious violation of student bus rules is observed or if there is a continued violation, despite intervention, standard disciplinary action may be taken. Lesser violations shall be brought to the attention of the student and proper conduct shall be explained.
5. Any time a tape is to be used to support a disciplinary action the tape shall be dated, labeled and kept on file at the transportation office for as long as deemed necessary.
6. Tapes not used to support disciplinary action shall be reused.
7. When a tape is used to support disciplinary action, the student or the student's parent/guardian/custodian may request to view the video. A viewing shall be arranged at the student's school or the transportation department office.
8. A building principal or designee may request viewing of films through the transportation supervisor.
9. The supervisor of transportation may use videos to assist drivers with student behavior management skills.