

Cowden-Herrick Schools
Cool Tool

DISTRICT-WIDE EXPECTATION (Middle School): Respect on the Bus

NAME OF THE SKILL: Respect

PURPOSE OF THE LESSON/WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

To teach the students the behaviors to keep them safe:

1. Keep hands and feet to self at all times
2. Make good choices when speaking to others
3. Remain seated in assigned seat at all times
4. Follow the driver's directions
5. Respect the bus and all property on it

TEACHING EXAMPLES:

1. You are on the bus and a student taps you on the head as he/she moves to the back of the bus. You ask him/her to stop because it is important to keep your hand to yourself at all times.
2. You are on the bus and other students are yelling at each other across the bus. You know that speaking in a normal voice will help keep the noise level down and allow the driver to concentrate while driving.
3. You see another student switching seats while the bus is in motion. You remember that sitting in your assigned seat will help keep you safe during your bus ride.
4. You are on the bus and another student begins to eat and drink in the seat next to you. The driver asks the student to put it away, but they refuse. The student then continues to eat and talk back to the driver. You remember that it is important to follow the directions of the driver and food and drink are not allowed on the bus.
5. You are on the bus and see a small tear or hole in the seat. You think about picking/pulling at it, but remember that it could make the damage worse. Instead you let the driver know of the damage in the seat.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

1. Role Play: On the bus, present this scenario: It is very crowded as students are boarding the bus after school. Some students are in the aisles talking with friends and others have their backpacks on the floor in the aisles making it difficult to get to the back of the bus. You see one student push another to get through. Ask students to decide what could happen next and decide on what the best solution to the problem should be.
2. Role Play: On the bus, have a student begin talking loudly to another student sitting on the far end of the bus. If possible, allow several students to do the same. Stop conversation and emphasize to students that this level of noise can be very distracting to the driver, causing the driver to look at the students and not on the road – which is unsafe. Select a student to politely resist conversation across the bus and choose to talk to a nearby friend.
3. Role Play: On the bus, have all students sit in their assigned seats, reminding them to keep belongings out of the aisle. Brainstorm situations that could occur if students move around on the bus.
4. Role Play: On the bus, introduce the driver and remind students that they are the “teacher” of the bus. Ask the students to share directions that might come from the driver and how it will keep them safe.
5. Role Play: On the bus, have students inspect their seats and share any damage. Remind students that it is their responsibility to report any damage to the driver immediately so that they are not accused of it.

REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES:

1. Quickly re-teach students before dismissal how to respect the bus.
2. Reinforce/reward positive behavior. Give Bus Bucks.

3. Role Play scenarios, on and off the bus, when needed throughout the entire year. Behaviors need to be recognized and re-taught to achieve success.