



Hello,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year!

The current bus schedule for the 2026-2027 school year and the Colstrip Public Schools Transportation Handbook are now available on the website.

Bus safety is a priority for Colstrip Public Schools. As such, it is important that all students who ride the bus follow some basic bus safety rules. Please familiarize yourself with these rules and remind your children about the importance of bus safety.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING STUDENTS RIDING BUSES

NOTE: BUSES ARE EQUIPPED WITH VIDEO CAMERAS- STUDENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO VIDEO MONITORING.

- Students must be on time for the bus both morning and afternoon. In the morning, they should be at the stop at least five minutes before the scheduled stop time. The scheduled time is the LEAVE time.
- If you miss the bus, DO NOT PULL UP BEHIND THE BUS OR FLASH YOUR LIGHTS TO STOP THE BUS. It is against the law for drivers to stop. You may pass the bus when safe to do so and proceed to the next bus stop. Students may board their regular/assigned bus at that stop. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE BUS IF THEY RUN UP FROM BEHIND THE BUS. This is very dangerous as the drivers cannot see them in their mirrors.
- If there are no sidewalks available, students coming to meet the bus should walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- Students will be assigned seats by the bus driver.
- If necessary to cross, students shall cross the street 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Students are not to extend their hands, arms, heads or other items through bus windows.
- Students must have written or verbal permission from parents or guardians turned in to the school secretary and a bus pass to change their regular bus pickup or drop off. They

will not be able to change to another bus without administrator approval. **Changes must occur before 2:00 PM (1:00 on Friday early out days).**

- Loud, vulgar or abusive language or behavior is prohibited.
- Students must not open or close windows without permission of the driver.
- The emergency door or window should be opened or exited only in case of an emergency. Any other such action may result in automatic bus suspension.
- Students must keep the bus clean and refrain from damaging it.
- Harassment, including sexual harassment, is unwelcome behavior and will not be tolerated on the bus. This includes, but is not limited to:
 1. Sexual statements
 2. Unwelcome gestures.
 3. Physical acts or contacts that are objectionable.
 4. Unwelcome jokes, pictures, threats, comments directed toward an individual that are derogatory.

Remember:

- a. Harassment is illegal and not permitted.
- b. Harassment does not have to be tolerated.
- c. If you are a victim of or witness harassment, you should report the incident immediately to the bus driver (if possible) and also your principal or school official.

Buses are considered an extension of the school and all policies required in school are also required to be followed on the bus.

Failure to comply with stated rules or the requests of the bus drivers and monitors will result in disciplinary action and may result in loss of bus riding privileges.

In the coming days, children that ride the bus will be practicing safe bus evacuation drills. This may cause your child to be a few minutes late to their normal drop off time.

If you have questions about busing, please call Richard Slater or your child's Principal.

Please be patient with our drivers and school staff. Let's practice KINDNESS and help support each other!

Thank you,
Richard Slater