

Sample Policy/Procedures for Walking School Bus

1. The Walking School Bus always follows the same route. The driver does not have the authority to change the route or stops without permission.
2. Walkers should arrive at the designated stop a few minutes early. The WSB will leave each stop at the designated time. It does not wait for latecomers. If a child misses the Walking School Bus in the morning, parents may choose to help them catch up and join the group at a later stop or work out a backup plan. In the afternoon, if a student misses the WSB, they should report to the school office and ask to have their parent/caregiver contacted. They will wait in the office until the designated adult arrives to pick them up or until further instructions are given by the parent/guardian.
3. Children are not to go into other people's houses. Walkers wait on the sidewalk or in the designated area for pick up.
4. Apartment buildings will have one designated spot for pick up and drop off.
5. Bus drivers escort the children onto the school property. (Kindergarteners may be walked to their rooms as determined by the school.)
6. Students may not leave the WSB enroute or get off at a different stop unless written permission is granted from the parent/guardian.
7. The bus stops on the sidewalk before crossing the street. Children cross together.
8. Participants must stay with the group and not wander off, run ahead or lag behind.
9. Children are expected to obey all 'bus drivers'.
10. Walkers must follow accepted pedestrian rules: stay on the sidewalk, cross at crosswalks, and be respectful of property and of others.
11. No wheels on the bus: i.e. skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, wheelie shoes.
12. Students are expected to carry all their belongings independently.
13. The ratio goal for supervision will be one parent to no more than 8 children.
14. Children are asked to walk in pairs along the route.
15. Determine if there must be a parent at home when children arrive home on the 'bus'.
16. Volunteers must register with the school as a 'driver'. Any non-parent or staff member will have a background check. Volunteers will be provided with a name badge and safety vest to wear at all times while operating the WSB.