

UNIONTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Approved: April 6, 2015

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the transportation schedule of students within the district and those attending buildings outside of the district but are transported by Uniontown School District. It defines the use of cellular phones by bus drivers or anyone transporting students. It states the board's position on weapons carried by the drivers. It explains the use of audio/video recording devices on all school transportation vehicles.

Calendar vs. Weather: Uniontown will transport students from their assigned bus stop to the school building they attend, daily, based on the calendar developed by the respective building.

In the event of inclement weather, **all** students transported by Uniontown Area School District, regardless of building, will follow the delayed or closed status of Uniontown; therefore, if an out of district building is in attendance and Uniontown is not, those students will not be transported.

The only exception to this rule will be if Uniontown is in attendance and an out of district building is closed. Then only the students in those respective buildings will not be transported.

Personal Cellular Phones: The use of cellular phone, Bluetooth devices and any other electronic device will not be permitted while driving any vehicle transporting students. Driving means operating a school bus or van with the motor running, including while temporarily stopped at a traffic light, in traffic, or any other delay. This does not include the school bus or van being pulled to the side of the highway and halted in a stopped position with/without the motor running but in a stationary position.

The only exception to this rule is when necessary communication with emergency services or law enforcement officials takes place.

Weapons: Under no circumstances is any school bus driver or van driver, school bus/ van aide, or any other employee of the district or contractor permitted to carry any weapon of any kind on their person or in the vehicle.

Audio/Video Equipment: Audio/Video recording devices will be placed in school buses or vans and will record live information at all times. Any actions recorded by such devices can be viewed and used without limitation to investigate civil and criminal liability against any and all people on the bus, including the driver and parents. There is no expectation of privacy in regards to activities recorded by the audio/visual equipment on the bus/van. These recordings can and will be used in a civil or criminal proceeding and in any other disciplinary procedure(s).