

711 VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING ON SCHOOL BUSES

I. PURPOSE

The transportation of students to and from school is an important function of the school district, and transportation by the school district is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. The behavior of students and employees on the bus is a significant factor in the safety and efficiency of school bus transportation. Student and employee misbehavior increases the potential risks of injury. Therefore, the school district believes that video/audio recording student passengers and employees on the school bus will encourage good behavior and, as a result, promote safety. The purpose of this policy is to establish a school bus video recording system.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. Placement

1. Each and every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the school district shall be equipped with a fully enclosed box for placement and operation of a video/audio recording equipment ~~camera~~ and conspicuously placed signs notifying riders that their conversations or actions may be recorded.
2. ~~A~~ Video/audio recording equipment ~~camera~~ will not necessarily be installed in each and every school bus owned, leased, contracted, and/or operated by the school district, but cameras may be rotated from bus to bus without prior notice to students.
3. Video/audio recording equipment ~~cameras~~ will be placed on a particular school bus, to the extent possible, where the school district has received complaints of inappropriate behavior.

B. Use of Video/Audio Recordings

1. A video/audio recording of the actions of student passengers and/or employees may be used by the school district as evidence in any disciplinary action brought against any student or employee arising out of the student's or employee's conduct on the bus.

2. A video/audio recording will be released only in conformance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g and the rules and/or regulations promulgated thereunder.
3. Video/audio recordings will be viewed by school district personnel on a random basis and/or when discipline problems on the bus have been brought to the attention of the school district.
4. A video/audio recording will be retained by the school district until relooped or until the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings in which the video/audio recording is used for evidence.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.585 (Notice of Recording Device)
Minn. Stat. § 138.17 (Government Records, Administration)
Minn. Rules Parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 (Data Practices)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1-99.67 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy)