

Restricted Items on School Buses

Regulation

- Large items are not permitted by law in the passenger compartment of school buses (Motor Vehicle Act: 35.03, 35.09).
- In addition, student safety is a top priority of the Transportation Department

Items Not Permitted in passenger compartment

- Large musical instruments, sports sticks, sports equipment, large school projects
- Bikes, skateboards, skates without safety bags, fishing rods, laser pointers
- Oversized bags or objects that do not fit safely on a student's lap, or on the floor between the students' knees and are higher than the back of the seat

Reasons for This Regulation

- Large items can become projectiles during sudden stops or emergencies
- Items may block aisles or emergency exits
- Oversized items interfere with proper seating and bus capacity
- Large objects can distract the driver or limit visibility
- Sports sticks can be used as weapons by students
- Oversize items can be identified as insecure cargo

Designated Stops for Instruments and Equipment

- Specific stops are designated for students transporting large instruments and other permissible restricted items
- These stops provide safer loading and unloading conditions

Parent & Student Responsibilities

- Be informed of the designated stops for instruments and equipment closest to home and the pickup and drop-off times
- Do not bring large or restricted items to regular bus stops
- If prior arrangements have not been made for restricted items, the registered busing student is welcome to board the bus but may be told that the instrument or item cannot be brought on board with them
- Contact the Transportation Department if unsure whether an item is permitted
- Driver will load and unload the item from the luggage compartment of the bus to ensure that it's safely secured

Communication

- This information is shared with families at the time a child is registered for busing and is also emailed to schools for distribution to applicable teachers and staff.