

SAFE OPERATION OF BOARD SCHOOL BUSES

1. Employees are required to safely drive all South Tech Charter Academy, Inc. Board school buses, as defined by §§ 234.051, 316.003(45), Fla. Stat., or 49 C.F.R. Part 571.3, which are owned, leased, or rented by, or on loan to, the Board.
2. All employees who drive a Board school bus shall maintain a valid commercial driver's license, with passenger endorsement, and comply with the requirements of State Board of Education rule 6A-3.0141.
3. All employees who drive a school bus must maintain a Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles driving record free of any conviction for a moving violation that may result, or has resulted, in the suspension of driving privileges.
4. Any employee who knowingly operates a Board school bus with a suspended or revoked license shall be subject to disciplinary action including termination.
5. If the employee receives more than one (1) conviction for a moving violation, as defined in any section of Chapter 316, F.S., in any calendar year, the employee may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.
6. An applicant for the position of school bus driver will not be hired if driver the applicant's history record contains either a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or an adjudication of guilt within the preceding seven (7) years for one or more of the following crimes:
 - a. Driving under the influence of alcoholic beverages, chemical substances or controlled substances, or with unlawful blood alcohol levels;
 - b. Leaving the scene of an accident where there was an injury and/or property damage exceeding (\$500);
 - c. Reckless driving resulting in an accident; or
 - d. Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer.
7. An employee found to have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude shall not be employed as a school bus driver.
8. Employees who operate a Board bus during the performance of their regular duties and who plead nolo contendere or guilty, or who are found guilty, of committing any of the crimes listed in Section F of this policy, will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.
9. All school bus drivers shall be subject to the federal substance abuse testing and alcohol detection program requirements of 49 C.F.R. Parts 40, 382 and 391, and the physical standards and examinations set forth in state board of education rule 6A-3.0151.
10. School bus drivers shall always drive the bus at a safe speed and never in excess of the legally posted speed limit in business or residential districts, and never in excess of fifty- five (55) miles per hour outside of business or residential districts.
11. School bus drivers shall not carry any firearm while on school board property, including a Board vehicle.
12. A driver shall not use or be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance, including prescription or non-prescription medication, which may impair the driver's alertness or performance while on duty.
13. All employees who operate a Board school bus shall have the responsibility to study and observe all laws and state board of education rules relating to the safe operation of school buses, including rule 6-3.017(2)(e)3.a-z, F.A.C.

Authority: §§ 230.22(2); 230.23(5)&(8); 231.001, Fla. Stat.

Implemented: §§ 230.23(5); 230.33(7); 234.101; 231.02(2)(a); 234.02; 322.03; Fla. Stat.

SBE Rules: 6-3.017; 6A-3.0141; 6A-3.0151

Code of Federal Regulations: 49 C.F.R. Parts 40, 382, 391

History: New: 7/01/2004; Revised: 7/07/2005

Reference: Palm Beach School District Policy 3.21