

**PELHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT DRAFT POLICY  
EEAE – SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROGRAM**

*Category: Recommended*

The safety and welfare of student riders will be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. Safety precautions will include the following:

1. Children will be instructed as to the proper procedure for boarding and exiting from a school bus and in proper and safe conduct while aboard.
2. Emergency evacuation drills will be conducted at least two times a year (Oct.-May) to acquaint student riders with procedures in emergency situations.
3. All vehicles used to transport children will be inspected on a regular schedule to see that they meet applicable safety regulations.
4. All drivers will be screened before employment for physical condition, proper license, and experience. The prior driving record of each driver will be checked for drug and alcohol or other convictions and a criminal records check must also be completed.

The School District or independent contractor will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of school buses and will make these requirements known to bus drivers. It will also cooperate with local safety officials in formulating and accomplishing its school bus safety program.

See Appendix: JICC-R Student Rules and Conduct on the School Bus

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***District Policy History:***

*Adopted: June 07, 2006*

***Legal References:***

20 U.S.C. §1232g, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act  
RSA 189:6-a, School Bus Safety  
RSA 189:9-a Pupils Prohibited for Disciplinary Reasons  
RSA 189:13-b, School Bus Driver & Transportation Monitor Criminal History Records Check  
RSA 376:2, VII, Motor Carriage of Passengers  
RSA 570-A:2, Interception and Disclosure of Telecommunication or Oral Communications  
49 C.F.R. § 40.1-40.13 (2001), Transportation Workplace Drug Testing Program  
49 C.F.R. Part 382 (2021) Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing  
49 C.F.R. Part 391 (1995), Qualifications of Drivers