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Dear MTSD Families,

Thank you for your feedback on the recent parent survey. In response to your input and recent situations in our cafeterias and buses, I want to take a moment to review our expectations and reinforce the importance of a safe and respectful school environment for all students.

Cafeteria Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Follow the directions of the aides.
- Remain seated while eating and not walk around with food.
- Be respectful to peers and staff.

Bus Expectations

Administration will continue to enforce the bus contract, and any student who does not follow the rules will face appropriate consequences. It is important that all students understand their role in maintaining a safe and positive bus environment. Bus infractions will be taken seriously to ensure the safety of all passengers.

We kindly ask that you review the bus contract that was revised and sent home in September. For your convenience, I have attached a copy of this document, which outlines expected behaviors. Please take a moment to discuss these expectations with your child and reinforce the importance of following the rules for their safety and the safety of others.

Parent/Student Bus Contract 2024-2025

*Bus drivers, students, parents and the school all share the responsibility for bus safety, following all bus rules and behaving in a responsible manner while riding the bus. **Riding the bus is a privilege.** If you behave appropriately, you will be allowed to ride the bus. This contract is designed to ensure that all students riding the bus are picked up and dropped off safely and in an orderly manner.*

Below you will find the terms and conditions that must be agreed upon in order for your child to ride the bus. Please be sure to review with your child the below:

Students will have a safe trip if drivers can concentrate on driving, not discipline. Therefore, it is important to note that riding the school bus is a privilege not a right, for that reason, students are expected to abide by the following school bus rules and regulations:

1. Students must follow all instructions and requests provided by the bus driver.
2. Students must follow all bus safety procedures. This includes remaining in their seats, facing forward, and keeping their seat belts buckled.
3. Students must board and exit the bus properly and safely. Students must not go under the bus for any reason.
4. Students must take their assigned seats, if applicable, and remain in their seats. The bus driver reserves the right to move a student's seat if that student is acting in a disruptive manner. Students will keep the aisles clear and keep their entire body inside the bus.
5. There will be absolutely no tampering with bus equipment, doors, windows, gears, etc. at any time.
6. Students will keep their hands/feet off others.
7. Students will keep all belongings inside their backpacks; they should not need to take anything out (including trading cards).
8. Students must be polite and courteous to one another. Bullying will not be tolerated (verbal, physical, cyber, etc.).
9. Students shall talk quietly, and not use vulgar or abusive language.
10. The following behavior will not be tolerated:
 - Throwing objects outside/inside the bus.
 - Eating any food or gum chewing.
 - Fighting, tripping, shoving, cursing, yelling or shouting.
11. Students are prohibited from carrying weapons, tobacco, alcohol, drugs or anything else prohibited by school on the bus. Students, who violate this rule, may be

reported to the Police department.

12. Students must follow all student code of conduct rules.

13. Students who violate policies and rules of conduct may be denied bus-riding privileges. Students who harm persons or damage any school property will be held to the school code of conduct.

When a student chooses to deviate from appropriate behavior, the steps for consequences will be as follows:

- **First Infraction:** The student will receive a warning, which may include a telephone call home to parent/guardian by school personnel.

- **Second Infraction:** The student will have their seat changed, spend time with the counselor or principal to review bus safety and rules, and a telephone call home to parent/guardian by school personnel.

- **Third Infraction:** The student will be suspended from bus privileges for (3) three school days.

- **Fourth Infraction:** The student will be suspended from bus privileges for (5) five school days.

- **Additional offenses could result in an indefinite suspension from the bus.**

Thank you for your continued support to create a respectful school environment. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,
Tiffany J.Moutis