1. Purpose

The purpose of the video cameras is to ensure that the student's behavior and safety on the school vehicle is consistent with the established school district guidelines, including but not limited to, student bus conduct as described in the student handbook and the policies of the school district. In addition, to the other general issues, a significant reason for the school bus program is to instill in the student rider that his/her actions on the school bus will result in the same disciplinary procedures that exist in the formal classroom and that safety must be maintained. Video monitoring is more precise and accurate than a bus driver's divided attention through a rear view mirror or his/her personal observation. If unacceptable behavior is recorded and/or reported, timely, appropriate and corrective action is more likely to improve the situation on the school bus.

2. Guidelines

Cameras

Vehicles will be fitted with a housing that could hold a video camera with audio recording capability. This housing has a red light that will be activated whether it contains a camera or not, making it appear as though a camera is there and recording. If the recording needs to be viewed, the card from the camera will be removed and downloaded at the request of a school or building administrator.

Notification

All riders will be notified as to the possible presence of a video camera with audio recording capability on the school bus annually in the student handbook and on a sign posted on the bus.

Screening

The use of video/audio recording will be for disciplinary consequences only. The film will be reviewed by a school administrator or building administrator to determine if the recording is applicable to reported incidents.
Parent Screening

In the event that a student is disciplined as a result of information derived from the video/audio camera on the bus, the parent may request to view the recording within two (2) weeks. In the event that the principal considers it advisable for the parent to view the recording, the principal may request a viewing be scheduled for the parent.

Discipline

The building principal will determine the appropriate discipline for the student based on the bus driver's report, the interview with the student(s) and the review of the film and district discipline code.