

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS ON SCHOOL BUSES OPERATED BY FIRST STUDENT, INC.

The Gouverneur Central School District currently contracts with First Student, Inc. for the provision of personnel to serve as drivers and attendants or monitors on District school buses. First Student, Inc. is provided with lists of students scheduled for pickup and drop off during regular morning and afternoon bus routes, and lists of students and other individuals prohibited from riding on District school buses.

Authorized passengers on District school buses shall include:

- The scheduled or any substitute driver, attendant, or monitor employed by First Student, Inc.;
- For a school bus driving a regular morning or afternoon bus route, those students whose names appear on the lists of students scheduled for pickup and drop off for that bus and route;
- For a school bus driving a late afternoon bus route, those students who seek transport due to participation in an authorized after-school activity, or for other legitimate reason such as inadvertent failure to timely board the student's regular afternoon bus, provided that the bus driver is able to identify the student by name or appearance;
- For a school bus driving any route, a student appearing at a pickup location during a storm, snow, or other circumstance rendering conditions hazardous for the student to remain at such location;
- District employees or agents whose presence on the school bus has been the subject of prior notification, or whose presence is confirmed to be authorized through communication with the District; and,
- Any other individuals, including law enforcement personnel or District-employed mechanics, whose presence is specifically authorized by the District.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, all other individuals shall be considered "unauthorized riders."

(Continued)

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS ON SCHOOL BUSES OPERATED BY FIRST STUDENT, INC. (Cont'd.)

First Student, Inc. shall be directed to instruct its employees to inform unauthorized riders that they may not board or be present on a school bus while it is in operation and attended by employees of First Student, Inc., and to request that unauthorized riders not board a school bus and/or disembark from a school bus. Further, it shall be directed to instruct its employees that if an unauthorized rider boards a District school bus and refuses to disembark from the bus, but under all the circumstances the bus driver determines there to be no significant prospect of danger to the health and safety of the students and employees aboard the bus, the bus should be driven according to its planned route, with an immediate report to the District's transportation department concerning the presence of the unauthorized rider. First Student, Inc. shall further be directed to instruct its employees that if an unauthorized rider boards a District school bus and refuses to disembark from the bus, and under all the circumstances the bus driver determines there to be a significant risk of harm to the health or safety of the students and employees aboard the bus, the bus driver shall contact the District's transportation department immediately and, at the next reasonably safe and legal opportunity, shall park the bus and turn off the engine until further instruction by the District and/or law enforcement personnel.

First Student, Inc. shall further be directed to instruct its employees that, in all instances in which an unauthorized rider boards a District school bus, the matter is to be reported to the District no later than the close of business that day.

Adopted: 11/6/23