Kare Youth League™
Their Future Is Now

PEARL
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

RIO HONDO PREP™
HOME OF THE KARES - A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1964

BUS SAFETY & INFORMATION

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

- All children must be ready for pick-up five (5) minutes before the scheduled pick-up time.
- Buses must operate on a definite schedule in order for schools to start and dismiss on time. Buses will wait one (1) minute after arrival and then will continue on the route. They will not return if you have missed your pick-up. Buses will not depart for another stop prior to your designated pick-up time.
- The parent is responsible for assisting his child to the bus in the morning, and from the bus in the evening. Drivers will not come to your door.
- No child will be permitted to leave a bus at a point other than the designated bus stop. Every effort is made to establish stops in convenient locations, but safety always takes precedence over other criteria.

DROP-OFF POLICIES

- Children in the 3rd grade through 8th grade must have a written note on file in the Pearl or Rio Offices, respectively, to be allowed to walk/bike home without an adult present to receive them.
- Any child who does not have an adult present to receive them, will be sent to the local KYL Office to call and wait for an adult to pick them up.
- Any child who does not get off the bus will be returned to the local KYL Office to call and wait for an adult to pick them up. This policy is designed as a fail-safe option in case of emergencies to insure every child remains in a safe situation. **It is unacceptable for any parent to deliberately plan on this emergency option or to have their child loiter at any Kare Youth League facility.**

SAFE RIDING HABITS FOR PARENTS TO REVIEW WITH CHILDREN

1. **You should remain in your seat at all times.**
2. **Do not change seats while the bus is in motion.**
3. **Talk quietly with your friends. No loud conversation, profanity, singing, or noisy, boisterous conduct.**
4. **Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.**
5. **Keep your hands to yourself.**
6. **Do not play on the bus.**
7. **Do not take large, dangerous objects, or pets, to school in the bus. As a safety factor, students will not be permitted to take on the bus any large bottles, insects, animals, knives or other pointed and sharp articles, plastic bags, or any other articles which may cause an injury to another child or himself.**
8. **No eating, drinking, or gum chewing on the bus.**
9. **Always obey your driver's instructions and be courteous and show respect.**

According to California regulations: "Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of and be responsible directly to the driver of the bus."

ROUTE CHANGES

Parents should be prepared for changes in buses, routes, and time of pick-up throughout the school year and from year to year as a result of additions or withdrawals of students in the program. Overall route travel time will vary from route to route, depending on school and student stop locations. After an initial adjustment period at the start of school or upon reorganization of routes, the pick-up and delivery time should be consistent within approximately fifteen (15) minutes. Buses may run later during days of unfavorable weather conditions such as fog and rain. Please call the school for instructions when visibility is poor since buses are not allowed to operate when conditions are not safe.

DISCIPLINE

Each child on a school bus must behave in a satisfactory manner in order for the driver to be alert to the many hazards of driving in heavy traffic. One moment of distraction could result in serious consequences. Since the health and safety of all children on the bus is of prime importance, a child who behaves in an unsatisfactory manner may, at the discretion of the bus driver and in consultation with the principal, be denied the use of transportation services, but no child shall be required to leave the bus before reaching his destination. Nor does the denial of the use of transportation services constitute suspension from school. When a child's conduct constitutes an infraction of the rules, the bus driver will file a report describing the incident or damage that occurred. The driver will deliver the report to the principal. The principal, upon receiving the report, will investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident and take the action deemed appropriate.

A. COUNSELING: This action should be considered when the misconduct is of a minor nature which does not jeopardize the safety or welfare of other students or the operation of the bus.

B. SUSPENSION: When a child's misconduct is deemed to jeopardize the health and safety of the bus passengers and bus operation, or when repeated counseling fails to correct abusive behavior, or when a student incurs damage to the bus, a suspension of bus service will be considered.

C. EXCLUSION OF BUS SERVICE: This action should be applied in cases where the misconduct is of such nature that the health and safety of the bus operation and/or of the occupants was willfully and seriously threatened.

Parents or guardians of children damaging school vehicles will be responsible for reimbursement for the damages.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

To assure safe drivers for the children, Pearl Prep and Rio Hondo Prep require all school bus drivers to have a valid School Bus Driver Certificate, first aid training, pass a physical examination and obtain traffic and criminal clearances.

SCHOOL BUS EQUIPMENT

To ensure use of safe equipment, all school buses are inspected daily by the bus driver, and periodically by the Department of California Highway Patrol. Each vehicle is certified and meets all applicable regulations and laws relating to pupil transportation in the State of California. Please note that California law does not require seat belts for bus passengers on certain buses.

PERSONAL ARTICLES

Each item a child takes to school should be clearly marked. In case of lost articles, check with the school office or the bus driver. However, the bus driver and the school cannot be responsible for personal belongings.

MOVING

If you are moving during the school year or changing your telephone number, please notify your child's principal as soon as possible or at least two (2) weeks before moving. Do not send or take the child to school and expect the bus to bring your child home to a new address unless you have been notified that transportation has been arranged.