West Woodland Walking School Bus Rules

(Some of these rules are clearly unique to our route and school but they give you an idea of some of the issues to consider when setting up a WSB)

- Listen to and be respectful of the drivers

- Be respectful of other kids

- Walk, don't run (except **up** the P-patch hill!)

- No playing with toys or balls en route; balls must be IN backpacks

- Keep your bodies and hands to yourself

- No hitting

- When you get to the bottom of the P-patch hill in the morning, do NOT turn the corner or climb in the bushes. Wait on the corner where the driver can see you.

- Walk on the sidewalk on 3rd Ave (not on the grass, not on private property).

- When you get to the crosswalk on 3rd Ave in the morning, wait **behind** the light post until the whole WSB is ready to cross 3rd Ave.

- Wait for a driver to be the first one to enter the crosswalk on 3rd NW.

- No playing on the gate at the top of the P-patch

- In the afternoon, no climbing trees unless your direct caregiver is present

- Go straight to the WSB meeting place after school. If something comes up, report to the meeting place and let the drivers know you'll be late. If you get to the WSB meeting place late and don't see anyone from the WSB, go to the office and call your parents.

I agree to follow these rules.

Some drivers may have additional rules, and I will follow those rules as well.

_____
Student's Signature

_____
Student's Signature

_____
Student's Signature

If you have 1 kid, you walk 2 shifts (one of which must be an afternoon shift).

If you have 2 kids, you walk 3 shifts (one of which must be an afternoon shift).

If your child or children only walk mornings *or* only walk afternoons, you are responsible for ½ the shift load.

If you can't do your shift, you need to find a sub.

If you schedule a playdate after school, and a friend is walking home with your child, let the drivers know via email (e.g. Ani will join Jane on Thurs pm bus).

The parents of any child *regularly* walking on the school bus must do shifts.

An email notification for a change to the afternoon schedule MUST BE SENT BY NOON on the day in question. Please put all pertinent info in the subject line of your email (e.g. no Dillon on Fri pm WSB). If you miss the noon deadline, you must call and SPEAK TO a driver. Also, if you decide to pick up your child from school and that child is expected on the pm WSB, please SPEAK TO a driver to let them know your child will not be walking home.

If you have cell phone, bring it.

When picking up your child at the top of the P-patch, please be prompt.

For the most part, the children on the WSB follow the rules. The size of the bus this year makes it especially important (for the safety of all the kids) that the rules be followed. We are going to try out a new system for handling incidents with children who do not follow the rules. If you think a child's behavior warrants a complaint, you can email the scheduler with details of the incident. You can choose to send the email to the parents of that child *and* to the scheduler, or just to the scheduler. If you prefer to email just the scheduler, she will inform the parents of the incident.

If there are three complaints about a child, that child will be suspended from the walking school bus for one week OR the parents can choose to walk on the WSB with the child (every shift) for one week. The parents can decide which option they think will work best for their child. The parents are still responsible for their shifts during that period of time. If there is a second round of complaints, the suspension period will be increased to 2 weeks.

Morning walkers
We walk rain or shine.

You snooze, you lose. The school bus does not wait for late kids in the morning. If families are late, it is the parents' responsibility to get their kids to school themselves.

Drivers: Please arrive on time and leave the bus stop promptly (choir bus leaves at 7:52 am, regular bus leaves at 8:32am). The morning bus stop is at the corner of Sycamore and 60th.

Gather the pack at each street crossing, and have an adult at the front and at the back of the pack as you walk.

We aim to have the kids arriving as the first bell rings at 8:45. The kids are expected to have jackets off, lunches and back packs stowed and bums in the seat by 8:50.

If you are early, walk really slowly (so as not to stand in front of the school to wait for the bell) or take the WSB around to the back of the school until the bell rings.

Choir walkers should plan to join the main bus when there is no choir (but the adults can decide whether everyone needs to walk depending on how many kids show up that morning).

<u>Afternoon walkers</u>

Drivers may need to pick up kids from Kindergarten classes for the first part of the school year.

Please make absolutely sure that you have carefully accounted for everyone who is expected to come home on your shift. Unless you have specifically been notified of a child's absence, do not assume that they have other arrangements if they are not at the fish tank. On the back of the schedule at school is a phone list with everyone's cell, work and home numbers. When a child is not there, please call the parents, check the classroom, check with the office and even check Kids, Inc. Hopefully, you can contact a parent to confirm what is going on.

Because of the large number of children on the WSB this year, we are going to try meeting at the round table just outside the WW main office. When the bus is ready to depart, the group will walk outside, cross at the crosswalk, and **<u>take roll</u>** before heading up the hill to 3rd.

Please also make sure that each child has been picked up by their respective adult before you leave the top of the P-patch.

At your discretion:

If a child asks to use your phone to call a parent to schedule a last minute playdate, you have the right to say yes or no.

If a child checks in at the meeting place and asks whether he/she can go outside to wait for the WSB to depart, you can decide whether to say yes or no.