*Policy*

**VIDEO MONITORING/SCHOOL BUSES**

*Code* **ECAG** *Issued***DRAFT/19**

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses used for transportation to and from school as well as for field trips, curricular, and extracurricular events. The district will use video cameras to foster security, to promote student and employee safety, and to monitor student behavior.

**Student Records**

The district may use videos as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding, in which case such videos become part of a student’s education record. The district will comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to video recordings when, as determined by the district and in accordance with law, such records are considered for retention as a part of the student’s education record. Such records will also be subject to established district procedures regarding confidential student records including access, review, and release of such records.

**Notice**

The district will annually provide the following notice to students and parents/legal guardians:

The Orangeburg County School District board of trustees has authorized the use of video cameras on district buses. The district will use the video cameras to monitor student behavior in order to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents/legal guardians are hereby notified that the content of the videos may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the videos is a confidential student record. The district will retain the videos with other student records only if necessary for use in a student disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined by the administration. Parents/Legal guardians may request to view videos of their child if the district uses the videos in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

*NOTE: If the board makes the determination that students will be notified when the video cameras are in use, this statement should be included in the annual notice.*

The following notice will also be placed on all school buses equipped with a video camera:

 This bus is equipped with a video/audio monitoring system.

**Review of Videos**

The school district will review videos *(choose one or more of the following):*

*Option 1: when necessary as a result of an incident reported by a bus driver or student. The videos may be recirculated for erasure after \*\*\*\*\* days.*

*Option 2: at least (weekly, monthly, etc.). The videos may be recirculated for erasure after \*\*\*\*\* days. NOTE: Videos should be kept for a minimum of two weeks.*

*Option 3: Randomly. The videos may be recirculated for erasure after \*\*\*\*\* days.*

Only those individuals who have a legitimate educational purpose for doing so may view the videos. A written log will be maintained of those viewing video recordings, including:

* the date of viewing
* reason for viewing
* the date the recording was made
* the bus number
* the name of the driver and any other employees shown in the video
* the signature of the viewer

Video recordings remain the property of the district and may be reproduced only in accordance with state and federal law and applicable district policies and procedures.

**Video Monitoring System**

Video cameras will be (*choose one of the following situations)*

*Option 1: used on all state and district-owned school buses.*

*Option 2: rotated randomly on state and district-owned school buses.*

*Option 3: used* *only on a select number of state and district-owned school buses.*

The superintendent, in consultation with the building principals and transportation director, determines how video cameras will be used and which school buses will be equipped with video equipment.

**Student Conduct**

The district prohibits students from tampering with video cameras on the school buses. The district will discipline students found in violation of this regulation in accordance with the student behavior code. Students and/or parents/legal guardians will reimburse the district for any repairs or replacement necessary as a result of the tampering.

Cf. EEAEC

Adopted ^

Legal References:

1. United States Code of Laws, as amended:
2. Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), 20 U.S.C.A. 1232(g).
3. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
4. Section 59-67-100 - Seating space; aisle; seats; number and location of students on buses.
5. Section 59-67-180 - General supervision of bus by driver.
6. Section 59-67-240 - Disciplinary powers of bus driver.