

MCPS Seatbelt Expectations

It is the goal of Missoula County Public Schools to provide the safest student transportation available. MCPS requires that all passengers riding school buses equipped with seat belts comply with Montana State Law regarding the use of seatbelts.

In addition,

- All passengers, including driver, are required to wear seatbelts as designed.
- Students are expected to buckle themselves into their seats.
- If students need assistance, they may ask the bus driver for help. If asked, the bus driver will assist riders to make sure they are wearing seat belts properly.
- In the afternoon before leaving each school, the driver will announce that they are preparing to leave and that all students should be in their seats with their seatbelts properly fastened. The driver will then walk to the back of the bus to check that students are seated correctly and seatbelts are fastened properly, asking anyone not seated and buckled correctly to comply with the rules regarding seat belts. The driver will not depart until all students are seated and buckled into their seat belts.
- MCPS will provide seatbelt education for all MCPS students as part of the Montana Behavioral Initiative training at the beginning of each school year.
- District school bus drivers will be trained in the proper use of seatbelts on school buses.

Students refusing to use seatbelts as designed will be subject to disciplinary actions per the bus conduct section of each student handbook. Repeated refusal to wear seatbelts may result in suspended riding privileges from the bus.