

## **Minutes of the Transportation Committee Meeting**

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Olds at 5:00 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Mr. Chad Cunningham, Mr. Denny Jeffers, Mr. Tom Kinser, Mr. Matt Klett, Ms. Kim Moore and Mr. Dale Purvis. Lynn Brody was absent. Also present were Mr. Glen Gratz, Mr. Ed Mulholland and Mrs. Cathy Nelson.

### **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

(No Audience to Visitors)

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### Activity Routes

See Attachments A and B. Attachment A summarizes current information about activity routes. Mr. Mulholland presented Attachment B that broke down one week's ridership. However, there is no longitudinal data on activity bus ridership. Mr. Mulholland asked about why we aren't maximizing our transportation levy. Have we lowered our transportation levy to lower fund balances? The district is at .12—what is our max?

Mr. Kinser suggested that we needed to cost everything, i.e., cost per mile and cost per driver. Mrs. Nelson and Mr. Mulholland are going to work on this and the information will be available for Dr. Baule and the Board.

Mr. Mulholland asked who will be developing the activity routes next year when there is no full time transportation secretary. Dr. Olds asked how that was done now and he stated that drivers do it on the fly based on who was on the bus. It was stated that it would probably be handled the same way next year. Mr. Mulholland stated that we are putting ourselves in jeopardy because we don't know who is riding the activity busses and we have no releases from parents. Mrs. Moore suggested that if we continue to have activity routes, maybe the Board needs to have a policy regarding activity route ridership.

The Committee agreed that it is not a rosy picture for transportation.

#### Software

Dr. Olds said that Dr. Baule gave Mr. Mulholland the go ahead to look at different transportation software but has not heard anything regarding the status of this search. Mr. Mulholland said that he gave all his information to Mrs. Nelson this spring. He added that there is no transportation software that can handle the district's current mapping. Mr. Mulholland obtained information from Versatrans and Transfinder and changing software is a 6-8 month process. He recommended that the district does not change software from TOM, which is used by the district at this time. Mr. Mulholland informed the Committee that TOM software was not going to be updated but would still be supported, and there is no software that can automatically route students.

Other/including Athletic Routes

Mr. Purvis presented Attachment C which outlines cuts that have been made in athletic transportation. He said that while we are currently in larger conferences, we are on a rotating schedule. We have added more schools but we are not playing as many games with each school.

Mr. Mulholland inquired whether we host as much as we could, and Mr. Purvis responded that we could have as many tournaments as we wanted. Mr. Purvis and Mrs. Nelson stated that we know by individual sport how much each one costs transportation-wise.

There was some confusion regarding the question, “Is it an IHSA rule that we need to transport?” Mr. Purvis will get that information.

Mr. Mulholland mentioned that there could be some other routes next year; however, Mrs. Moore stated that she wasn’t sure about the details of any other routes at this time. He also asked whether the Board was planning to take transportation out for bid again.

Mr. Kinser said that he would like the Committee to look at all of the discretionary spending—item by item. Then he felt the Board could decide what they want to cut. It was noted that there are many factors besides costs that would go into these decisions. Mr. Kinser asked about surplus busses? Mr. Mulholland spoke about using metrics. Mr. Kinser stated that there was no hurry on this information and all agreed that there wasn’t enough time to prepare it for the next Board meeting. It was decided to wait to see what information Dr. Baule and the Board wanted. It was agreed to provide meeting notes and to be available for clarification at the Board meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Transportation Committee meeting was not scheduled at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

## **Attachment A**

### **Route Information**

AM/PM Routes = 26 plus 7 High School

4:15 Activity Routes = 3 (Run Tues/Thurs)

Noon ECC Routes = 2

Vehicles used for bussing = 31 busses (including activity), 1 Yukon, 2 vans

Appx. number of children bussed = 1,257 (based upon numbers included on route sheets—actual ridership may be less)

Cost for activity routes (does not included fuel)

Current year- FY 12 – 3 drivers (64 days) = \$5,605.76 Salary only

Last year – FY11 – 4 drivers (total days was 65, but two drivers didn't do all days)  
= \$6,298.35 Salary only

# Attachment B

Activity Routes the week of April of April 9th

Tuesday April 10th					
<u>Bus #</u>	<u>Tutoring</u>	<u>Athletics</u>	<u>Detentions</u>	<u>Rehersal</u>	<u>Chess</u>
32	11	5	2	1	5
44	11	18	1	1	2
52	13	14	1		
<u>Totals</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

Thursday April 12th			(Home MS Track Meet)		
32	7	0	2	0	3
44	8	0	1	4	1
52	9	2	0	0	4
<u>Totals</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>



## **Attachment C**

### **Athletic Transportation**

Listed below are some of the ways in which we have attempted to cut traveling costs to athletic contests:

#### **Fall Season**

Football (HS) - Cut from 3 busses down to 2 busses. Cheerleaders no longer travel to away games. (If they travel it is paid for by outside source)

Volleyball (HS) – All 3 levels play on the same night. (1Bus-1 trip.)

At the middle school every effort is made to schedule soccer with volleyball on the same night so 1 bus can be used. This does not always work, but we try.

#### **Winter Season**

Basketball -We have gone from scheduling freshman games on separate nights to adding them to the regularly scheduled varsity/sophomore games. (All travel on the same bus.)

Cheerleaders do not travel to away games. We used to send 2 busses to basketball games but now send 1.

MS-A and B Teams travel together every game.

#### **Spring Season**

Baseball/Softball are home/away schedules and level-combined. (1 bus to games)

Soccer-1 Team travels. (No chance to “double-up”.)

Track- Boys and girls meets are scheduled together every chance so 1 bus can be used. Some of the invites are different, but not many. (1-bus.)

MS Track-All meets with exception of MNC meet are together to save travel costs.