



Transportation Workgroup

November 22, 2021

Work-Group Agenda

- Introductions
- Review Purpose, Structure, & Norms
- Shared Resources
- Transportation 101-Overview of Service
- Table Activity-Current Model
- Gap Analysis
- Closure Activity
- Next Meeting-December 6 (4:00-5:30)

Introductions

Name/Title/Role

Why are you here?

What is your favorite holiday meal/dish?

Shared Understandings

- Purpose: Review current transportation model within Spokane Public Schools
 - Develop transportation model recommendations for the Superintendent and School Board of Directors.
- Group Norms
 - Listen first, seek to understand
 - Respect other's point of view
 - Work collaboratively to develop solutions - Solution Focused

Shared Resources

<https://padlet.com/beckyr3/m582indtkrttm9bh>





Transportation 101

Who do we transport to school?

Eligible K-12 students residing in the district who live outside the state approved walk boundary and within the attendance boundary of the school of authorized attendance.

K-12 students with special needs (ambulatory or non-ambulatory) who, through the IEP process have transportation as a related service, have been deemed eligible for district transportation services.

Students with a 504-Accommodation plan but do not have an IEP.

Who do we transport to school?

Pre-school students from 3-5 years old who are eligible for special education services. These are students who have been identified as having a disability.

Overload busses are used to transport K-6 students from their home elementary school to another elementary school to accommodate student/teacher ratio.

Hub route busses are used to transport students from their home school to another school for a special program; i.e. NEWTech, Odyssey, & IST.

Other Transportation Uses

Extracurricular activities where busses are used to provide transportation for secondary school athletics and activities.

Instructional field trips where busses are used to provide transportation for educational enrichment designed to be a part of the basic education program.

Late take home busses designed to provide school to home transportation for eligible bussing students who are involved in after school activities either academic or athletic.

Alternate Transportation

STA bus passes provided to students as alternate transportation to get from home to school when extenuating circumstances apply.

STA Para-Transit passes may be provided to students with disabilities as alternate transportation to get from home to school when extenuating circumstances apply.

Two-hour STA bus passes are used by schools for various reasons ranging from missing the bus, needing to leave school early or attending an alternate class at another school.

Cabs/Taxis/Car Services are an option for alternate transportation at the district's discretion for various reason such as behavior concerns, safety concerns or temporary transport.

Federal and State Requirement

Special Education

- Transportation is a related service as defined by IDEA regulations and can include travel to and from school and between schools; travel in and around school buildings; and specialized equipment such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps.
- A child's individualized education program (IEP) Team is responsible for determining both if transportation is required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education and related services, and how the transportation services should be implemented.
- Travel training is instruction that enables children with disabilities to develop an awareness of the environment in which they live, and to learn the skills necessary to move effectively and safely from place to place within that environment.

Special Education Continued

- If the IEP Team has made that determination, then it should include transportation for required after-school activities, such as community service activities that are required by the school, as well as for activities necessary to afford the child an equal opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities.
- The IDEA does not require LEAs to transport children with disabilities in separate vehicles, isolated from their peers. In fact, many children with disabilities can receive the same transportation provided to non-disabled children, consistent with the least restrictive environment requirements in 34 CFR §§300.114 through 300.120.

McKinney Vento

- Supporting the educational rights of students who are living in emergency, temporary and/or transitional housing situations. The HEART program helps children and youth who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. Foster Care is included.
- LEAs must provide students experiencing homelessness with transportation to and from their school of origin, at a parent or guardian's request
- Extended travel times
 - District Liaison is responsible to determine what is in the best interest of the child.
 - Airflights, extended travel times, or other extremely unusual request could result in denial if it is not in the best interest of the child.

Routing and Bus Schedules

- Spokane Public Schools shall provide school bus transportation to students residing and enrolled in district schools who live within the eligible bussing area of the school of attendance and outside of the state approved walk boundary. The state approved walk boundary applies to all district schools whose area is larger than one radius mile.
- Transportation routes shall be established in a manner which safely and efficiently serves all passengers to be transported. All bus routes and schedules are subject to change to maintain safety and efficiency upon approval from the District Transportation Office.
- Bus routes and schedules shall be established for the best welfare of all students with disabilities. Students approved for specialized transportation shall receive curbside service when safe, appropriate and is the least restrictive environment.

Staffing

CONTRACTOR

- Bus Drivers: School bus drivers are required to secure a class B commercial driving license with school bus, passenger and air brake endorsements.
- Bus Aides: School bus aides are also known as attendants or monitors. A school bus aide is an adult who is hired to assist students who have been assigned to specialized transportation.
- Paraeducators: Staff hired to assist certificated staff with student instruction, academia, behavior, vocational training and supervision throughout the school day including the school bus. Additional time is allotted to some paraeducators to cover early or late arrival of school busses.
- Dispatchers, office staff and managers

DISTRICT

- Transportation supervisor and specialists

Transportation Funding

WAC 392-141-310(6)

"To and from transportation" means all transportation between route stops and schools both before and after the school day. To and from transportation includes transportation between home and school and transportation between schools, commonly referred to as shuttles. Transportation not authorized for state allocations under this definition includes, but is not limited to, transportation for students participating in nonacademic extended day programs, field trips, and extracurricular activities.

Transportation Funding

- Revenues
 - Allocation from the state based on ridership and routes
 - School districts are required to report the total daily number of students riding the school bus for designated count days
 - School districts are required to provide the location of all school bus stops and associated destinations
 - Depreciation of buses
- Expenditures
 - Contract with Durham
 - Staffing

Transportation Expenditures – Contract Only

Fiscal Year	To/From Transportation	Other Trips	Total
2011	\$8,545,239.80	\$396,901.77	\$8,942,141.57
2012	8,577,147.57	345,919.10	8,923,066.67
2013	8,936,475.73	390,848.26	9,327,323.99
2014	8,997,808.39	428,754.66	9,426,563.05
2015	9,032,837.21	686,258.69	9,719,095.90
2016	9,015,780.35	663,461.25	9,679,241.60
2017	9,731,456.98	719,150.64	10,450,607.62
2018	10,021,031.04	732,886.32	10,753,917.36
2019	11,755,816.48	828,337.84	12,584,154.32
2020	10,909,239.93	405,768.48	11,315,008.41
2021	9,180,603.11	254,878.51	9,435,481.62

Contracting for Services

- A school district shall engage in an open competitive process at least once every five years
- A district may enter a contract of less than five years in duration with a district option to renew, extend, or terminate the contract, if the district engages in an open competitive process at least once every five years

Efficiency Reviews

- The evaluation shall include such measures as:
 - (a) Efficient routing of buses;
 - (b) Efficient use of vehicle capacity; and
 - (c) Reasonable controls on compensation costs
- If a school district's operation is calculated to be less than ninety percent efficient, the regional transportation coordinators shall provide an individual review to determine what measures are available to the school district to improve efficiency

Activity-Table Time

- In your table groups record your answers to the following two questions?
 - 1) What is going well?
 - 2) What are the challenges?
 - Pre- March 2020
 - Post- March 2020



Gap Analysis

With your group talk about where you see gaps. What's missing?

Future Meeting Dates

December 6

January 10

January 24

February 7

February 28

March 14