



Transportation

Chair:  
Chris Lomonaco

12/14/21

Start

5:30 p.m.

End

6:45 p.m.

Attendance:

Dr. David Gill, Elizabeth Donahue, Amy Mercik, Eric Attleson, Chris Lomonaco, Sue Ticknor, Shannin Gates, and Melissa Schmitz

Reviewed data supplied showing the number of student arrivals between 7 and 7:30 a.m. through bussing and parent transport. The expanded times have helped a little. Students are divided into separate areas until the bell rings for homeroom.

**Update** – we have one driver in training. May be able to test soon. This is good news.

We started the year down between 6 and 8 drivers, that has not changed – and we currently have 4 on quarantine.

**Short-Term Solutions** – open buildings earlier for parent drop-off, work with other districts to share runs for homeless and alternative education runs. Have lawn signs created (relatively low cost) for placement throughout our school community...if nothing other than to counteract other businesses vying for drivers as well. Investigate allowing students to stay later to allow for parent pick-up – but supervision and extended day could prove challenging.

District will do a communication with our parents/guardians regarding the ability to drop off earlier at our schools as well as further explanation as to the “day in the life of a bus driver.”

**Long-Term Solutions** – Build more time between MS/HS start and elementary start times, stagger CB and PD start times by an hour (has been done in past). New routing software is coming over Christmas break which Sue and Shannin will begin working with, hard to say if changes could take place in the middle of the year or have to wait until next school year. Consider more block stops, and eliminate the requirement to see a parent/guardian before dropping off PD students – but not at the expense of safety.

Establish walking distances – either a 1.5 mile walk for MS/HS and .5 mile walk for CB – but there are not a lot of kids that would affect as MS/HS. For CB it would make a big difference. To do this it would have to go to vote as we are currently a 100% bussing district.

Is returning to hybrid or full remote learning our only option to relieve the stress of transportation?

Next meeting – January 12, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.