



**Transportation Issues Study Committee
The 168th Meeting
September 23, 2009**

Next Meeting: October 28, 2009 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

**CC- 1 & 2, Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)
Roseville, MN 55113**

Present:

Keith Paulson, Anoka-Hennepin Schools
Kelly Wosika, MDE Program Finance/Transportation
Jan Vanderwall, Roseville Schools
Lieutenant Ed Carroll, Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Dave Peterson, St. Paul Schools
Lori Jonason, Minnetonka Schools
Brad Lundell, Minnesota Association of Pupil Transportation (MAPT) Lobbyist
Harry Kenerson, Osseo Schools
John Thomas, Eastern Carver County Schools
Gary Botzek, Minnesota School Bus Operators Association (MSBOA)
Rob Anderson, Minneapolis Schools
Randy Dukek, Rosemount Schools
Tom (Ace) Oestreich, Bloomington Schools
Duane Vornbrock, Sauk Center Schools
Harold Turnquist, St. Paul Schools
Dan Stroeing, St. Paul Schools
B.J. Ison, White Bear Lake Schools

Summary: The summary of the July Transportation Issues meeting was approved with the change to the sentence on page three that begins with Dave Peterson explained that there should be a timeline established. The revised minutes clarify that there is already a timeline and that one does not need be established.

Special Education Transportation Committee: Nothing to report.

Minnesota Department of Education: Harry Kenerson, Osseo Schools has an excellent student bus safety training DVR that could be used as a resource for districts.

Kelly told the group about district transportation responsibilities when a school within their district is not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). If a school falls under the School Choice Stage, students may choose to attend a higher performing school in the district with transportation provided. This would include open-enrolled students as well.

Title I funds are available for the additional cost of transportation. Twenty percent of the Title I funds should be set aside for supplemental education services (SES). Of the 20 percent, five percent is for Choice and five percent is for SES. After that, the remaining 10 percent can be used for a combination of either Choice or SES. Further clarification is needed on what constitutes a Choice expenditure and SES expenditure. Kelly will look into this further.

Kelly told the group that the Transportation Category in MARSS for Category 03-Disabled and 04-Deseg was added to the enrollment record starting with FY10. This change identifies a student's Average Daily Membership for the time the student was transported in a particular category. Transportation aid is determined on date-specific records when a student's transportation category changes to an 03 or from an 03 to another category. Also transportation aid is determined when a student's transportation category changes to an 04 when the prior transportation category was an 00, 01, 02, 05 or 06 or from a 04 to another category.

Kelly reminded the group that special education dollars cannot be used to purchase child restraint systems. Only when a child has an IEP that specifies that the child needs to have a specialized restraint system can special education dollars be used for that purpose.

Office of Student Transportation Safety: Lieutenant Ed Carroll (Eddie) said that the inspection manual is finalized and posted to the DPS Website. [Access the School Bus Inspection Manual.](#)

[Access contact information for the sergeants and field inspectors.](#) Information on Type III driver's requirements has also been updated according to recent legislation.

Lt. Carroll reported The Office of Pupil Transportation Safety has a draft work plan and will move forward as a group on legislative initiatives at the next Stakeholders Meeting.

School bus safety week is coming up and DPS is looking into ways of getting some additional funding.

Lt. Carroll explained a situation where a vehicle passed a stopped school bus with its flashing red signal lights on. He reminded districts to use common sense on safety and reporting procedures.

Legislative: Brad Lundell said that Senator Murphy will propose clarifying language on the Booster Seat Requirement in the 2010 legislative session. If passed, the new legislation will shed light on the intent of the bill.

The Shared Service Bill is still being discussed as there are still issues surrounding the concept. Districts are sharing services already, so this bill may not go anywhere.

There was a Care and Treatment Taskforce Meeting recently. Transportation issues were discussed along with limiting the number of care and treatment program choices and issues

surrounding special education versus non-special education students. Expect to see some legislative changes on this topic in the 2011 session.

Dave Peterson explained that the federal funding to provide a safe walk to a school bus stop was rejected.

Miscellaneous: There was a discussion about the Minnesota State Academies decision to have a Sunday night 7:00 p.m. drop-off time starting in November. There were concerns with this change as it would cause late-night driving in potentially bad weather, sleep deprivation and driver fatigue.

The group felt that they would be more effective if they would contact Minnesota State Academies as a group to voice their concerns. Kelly said she would find out who the best contact on this would be.

There was a discussion on creating a Type III model work place drug testing policy that districts may adopt. The discussion included talk on whether or not a policy is even needed.

Other topics discussed included school districts renting school buses when there is a school bus contractor located within 15 miles, getting input on the possibility of requiring eight hours of school bus driver training, record retention on driver ticket reporting and the need for post-trip inspection.

Future Meetings: Future meeting dates are:

October 28, 2009	Education Conference Ctr A., Rooms 1 & 2, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
November 25, 2009	Education Conference Ctr A., Rooms 1 & 2, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Adjourn: 11:30 a.m.