

**JCPS**

**Transportation  
Update**

**Dec. 5, 2023**

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# Inclement Weather Update

## **No Delays**

It will be a “go” or “no go”

## **NTI Expectations**

Schools have been updated on NTI policies.

# Current Reality: Routes and Drivers

2015

**Number of  
Routes: 975**

**Full Time  
Drivers\*: 1080**

2022

**Number of  
Routes: 740**

**Full Time  
Drivers\*: 650**

Current

**Number of  
Routes: 568**

**Full Time  
Drivers\*: 574 (526  
daily average)**

\* Full Time Drivers totals include ORDs, who do not drive the same route daily

# Ongoing Challenges and Opportunities

## Bus driver shortage

The nationwide bus driver shortage continues to impact JCPS.

## Bus driver call ins

Highest number of call ins on Mondays and Fridays. **Friday, \*Nov. 17, with 71 drivers called in.** We average 51 drivers a day calling in.

## Recruiting drivers

\_\_ new drivers passed their CDL test and started this week. We started a new class with 10 new drivers on 12/4/23.

## Bus driver incentives

- Hourly **bonus pay** for up to 3 challenging routes
- Early Childhood runs and routes scheduled past 6 p.m. added to **challenging route criteria**
- \$6 **attendance bonus**

If we had stayed with our old bell schedule with the New Student Assignment Plan, we would have 850 routes this year.



# Efficiencies

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**Goal: All students dropped off by 6:30 p.m.**

**Reality: Average clear time 10-9 to 11-22 = 7:00pm**

- Vast majority clear by 6:38pm
- Usually 5-7 buses still on the road from 6:38 to 7:00



# Trends with Routes, Riders, & Drivers

**Ridership has remained consistent since 2010. We typically have between 65,000 and 70,000 students riding JCPS school buses daily.**

**The number of schools we transport students to has increased with the addition of Grace James Academy, W.E.B. DuBois, Echo Trail Middle, and Hudson Middle.**

**Choice has also been increased through dual resides and grandfathering.**

**We have significantly consolidated routes and modified school start times to accommodate the bus driver shortage.**

# Progress since October 2nd

## **Teamsters relationship -**

- Strong communication with President Stovall
- Union Steward meetings
- Driver Updates on solutions we are seeking

## **Bus referrals -**

- New process to handle bus referrals promptly and efficiently (11/15)
- Culture and Climate staff at each compound daily
- Communicated suspension policy changes to all principals



# Progress since October 2nd

## **Schools relationship -**

- Operations has standing time on principals meetings.
- Common document of transportation procedures (10/20)
- Bi Weekly Principal Advisory group
- Weekly principal communications

## **CGCS Districts -**

- Several meetings with CGCS District COOs / transportation directors

## **Transportation Assessment-**

- Full participation in the Prismatic Services assessment

# Progress since October 2nd

## **Request for Proposals-**

- We have met with several transportation routing and technology companies.
- It is appropriate to issue a formal RFP to solicit what solutions, late Dec/ Jan
- We are committed to routing internally for 24-25

## **Samsara -**

- Current pilot is promising
- Included in this pilot is turn by turn navigation, camera technology that allows us to capture incidents within minutes

# Preparing for 24-25

## **Routing Pause Period -**

- Recommend a yearly pause period each summer at the end of the summer
- Pause routing for new students to assure a smooth start to the school year
- Anticipate this period to last 3 weeks
- Standard practice in most districts our size, nationwide

## **Drivers projections-**

- We project needing 450 (500 w/ call ins) drivers to maintain reside, special education, and A5 service
- Projected to have 500-520 drivers by August of 2024

# Preparing for 24-25

Action	Estimated Bus Impact
Eliminate all magnet/traditional transportation (just bus resides)	100-110
Eliminate all magnet/traditional transportation (allow in network)	70-80
Transport only Free and Reduced Lunch magnet/traditional students	35-45
Hubs for magnet students, all (just F/R)	15-25 (25-35)
Eliminate “grandfathering” for prior student assignment plan	20-30
Investigate: Parent stipend for High School transportation	*** 15-25
Lottery option for Magnet/ Traditional	*** variable

# Preparing for 24-25

## **Compound Support:**

- We recognize the great lengths our compound staff have gone to this year.
- January board meeting we will bring a compound recommendation to the transportation organizational chart.
- Improved response and service for schools

## **Positions:**

- (13) Clerks

# Preparing for 24-25

**Routing Team** - at the January board meeting we will bring a routing team recommendation to the transportation organizational chart.

**Rationale:** This team will be dedicated year round to routing our students, creating bus stops, efficient routes for our drivers, and improving service. They will be the first line of routing for the district. This structure is consistent with other districts near our size. In addition the assistant director will be responsible for all special populations: ECE, McKinney Vento, and our white van fleet transportation.

**Positions:**

- Assistant Director of Routing & Special Populations
- (2) Routing Coordinators
- (2) GIS Routing specialists
- Data Technician



Questions?