

Transportation Committee

November 3, 2022

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**T** - We need to figure a new protocol for picking up students at dismissal out in front of the building. I have watched from the window, the busses almost hit the building out back during the safety evacuation. We have had busses that have left before the 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders were called down to get on the bus – the white top bus – the mini bus.

**A** - that bus had a volatile student and when they need to go I sent them on their way – not to wait too long – I gave them the all clear.

**T** - we need to address what we are doing in the pre-school - \$5,000 month min for bus monitors. The midday busses, too – I am not sure how we sustain it – we did not budget for the extra cost. We might ask for tuition.

**M** – We have to have like numbers SPED – Typical Peers

**T** – I don't have the answers, I am just presenting the issues

**M** – Both the midday busses – do they have SPED students on it?

**T** – Doesn't matter – monitors are required for all pre-K kids - \$125/day per bus (\$25) – all our busses pick up pre-K students.

**L** – Can we limit it to 2 busses (morning, midday, night) three times a day? Pre-K would not use big bus.

**Ly** – IEP specific rules don't allow it.

**M** – We tried to eliminate a big bus and add in a pre-k bus for only one monitor?

**T** – no savings on the size of the bus. It means combining busses – which they can do but it means kids on a bus at 6:30 – 6:45.

**A** – Can we have an understanding that if we send a bus to your house and no one get on – we eliminate the stop. Bus A is the only full one when we get here. The short bus only has 3 kids on it for the same price.

**T** – the tiny bus is the feeder and goes where the big busses can't go. No one gets on it in the afternoon.

A – When ACCESS is not in session – they use it. They don't come every day. If the bus driver knows ahead of time that the kids are going to ACCESS, the bus will not come.

T – We are paying for a contracted service – and if they are not coming – we are still paying for it.

A – I believe it is better for the busses to be in the back. We have dismissal down to 4 minutes. It is organized – walking out the building and right on the bus. Busses are waiting to get the message to go. There is a little drama between the busses in the morning – they need to turn their lights off and wait to let the kids off. Our bus dismissal is seamless.

Ly – Are we responsible for any damage?

T – The bus company has asked – not to back up. It is a tight corner – Ed has asked.

A – Every bus has to back up every single day – to turn around.

M – When we had the bus evacuation, it was the first couple of weeks of school – we had new people – we tried different methods and reflected on what works – we did not have a system down. I completely agree – I am against putting the busses in the front – 400 kids coming in two doors. We have dismissal down solid now. Little kids first and then bigger kids – safety wise – I think we would be going backwards if we go out front. If the two male bus drivers would stop – we have 200 kids waiting for 3 kids to get off. If the bus company could get that under control.

L - I think we go back to the bus company and tell them we do not think the front is safe for stated reasons and we go one bus for pre-k we will save money.

A – I have also offered to ride the bus anytime. I know the monitors are there for pre-k – but they sometimes ask me - we have a pretty good relationship with the drivers.

MH – We could look at widening the road in the back.

M – Kids get dropped off at 7:00 – if they are running through the busses – it is scary.

T – We cannot maintain paying for all the monitors – but consolidating routes has problems, too.

M – A and I can go over the bus list in the summer and call the families to get the stops off the route. This could eliminate headaches for the drivers.

T – I asked the bus company for this data – they are stopping because that one day – a kid will be waiting – they need to be called to get the stop off the list.

L – If they take the bus in the morning then go to ACCESS – or parents drop off in the morning and then bus at night.

M - or sports after school. The first step would be to eliminate the stops.

T – 20 seats on the midday for pre-k.

L – Eliminating buses and combining routes could be a possibility.