



WARNER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2023

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WARNER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Home To School Transportation Plan

Background

Warner Unified School District provides no cost Home to School Transportation to all students. As one of the largest geographic districts in San Diego County, we serve 462 square miles of the rural back country.

In 2013-14, with enactment of the Local Control Funding Formula (“LCFF”), State funding for Home to School (“HTS”) Transportation was established at a fixed amount, in perpetuity, based on the amount of funding each school district received in 2012-13 for both General Education and Special Education transportation. This was accomplished by providing an “add-on” (“Transportation Add-On”) to the resulting LCFF funding AFTER all other factors, including COLA, were applied to the formula. Consequently, the Transportation Add-On remain fixed with the amount for Warner USD permanently set at \$199,818.

Prior to 2013-14, the amount of funding provided by the State for Home to School Transportation was insufficient to cover the actual costs. Consequently, most school districts were forced to contribute other unrestricted general fund dollars to the program (“District Contribution to HTS Transportation”). Because the Transportation Add-On did not increase each year, the District Contribution to HTS Transportation grew over time as costs escalated. For 2021-22, Warner’s costs for both General Education and Special Education transportation were \$639,779 (including new bus purchases) producing a District Contribution to HTS Transportation from the unrestricted general fund equal to \$439,961.

Due to advocacy efforts by several state-wide organizations representing school district Governing Boards and Administrators, for the first time in more than 10 years, the 2022-23 enacted State Budget included additional funding for HTS Transportation of \$637 million. The funding now allows school districts to receive the greater of the current Transportation Add-On augmented for COLA or 60% of reported transportation costs. At this time, Warner will NOT likely earn additional funding from this increase to funding as our current add-on is already more than 60% of total costs.

Current Transportation Services

The District currently has 7 school buses in operation. All of our buses hold from 52-84 passengers. In addition, the District owns four (4) ten (10) passenger vans. Warner USD buses traveled a total of 65,916 miles in the 2021-2022 school year and vans travelled approximately 20,000 additional miles.

The District currently operates a total of 3 routes for General Education and 1 route for Special Education students serviced by a total of 4 school bus drivers and 1 van driver. The District contracts for 3 additional Special Education students to be transported to other schools. In addition, the District provides transportation

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for students home after the ASES and ASSETS Afterschool Programs. Finally, the District, on average, transports students on 30 - 50 field trips and sporting events each year.

For 2022-23, the District is transporting 226 students and 4 Special Education students to outside entities. Transportation for General Education students is currently provided for all students residing in the district boundaries.

Transportation for Special Education students is provided for those receiving services at a school other than their school of residence or because of the severity of their disability, as specified in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These students are currently transported various other public and non-public schools.

Priority for TK-6 and Low Income Students

The District provides universal no cost transportation to all students. Establishing a priority is not necessary at this time and the District does not have plans to eliminate transportation opportunities to all students at this time.

In the unlikely event, we must prioritize rider access, the District will use the following priorities:

- The District will use the Household Income Data form in the enrollment process to establish priority.
- Assign students to routes in the following order:
 - Students residing in households with an income level at or below the “low income” threshold
 - Students in grades TK-6 residing in households with an income level above the “low income” threshold
 - Students in grades 7-12 residing in households with an income level above the “low income” threshold

Accessibility for Students With Disabilities and Homeless Youth

Students with disabilities will continue to be provided transportation services, when specified in their IEP, in accordance with the current process.

Students designated as homeless are identified, monitored, and serviced by the District Office Homeless Liaison. This person will work with the family to ensure homeless students are transported to and from school. This can be accomplished by working with the Transportation Department to provide District transportation on existing bus routes or by arranging special transportation.

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Free Transportation for Unduplicated Pupils

Students receiving either General Education or Special Education transportation service, including Unduplicated Pupils -- defined as students who are low socio-economic, English learners, or foster youth -- will continue to receive District transportation service at no charge.

Stakeholder Consultation

In accordance with Education Code 39800.1, the District sought input from the following stakeholder groups:

<u>Stakeholder Group</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
<i>Classified Staff</i>	Survey emailed out to all staff for input and feedback.	March 2023
<i>Teachers</i>	Survey emailed out to all staff for input and feedback.	March 2023
<i>School Administrators</i>	Survey emailed out to all staff for input and feedback.	March 2023
<i>Parents</i>	Survey emailed out to all parents for input and feedback.	March 2023
<i>Pupils</i>	Survey emailed out to all parents for input and feedback.	March 2023
<i>Regional Local Transit Authority(ies)</i>	Emailed	TBD
<i>Local Air Pollution Control District</i>	Emailed	TBD
<i>Local Air Management District</i>	Emailed	TBD
<i>Other Stakeholders</i>		