

Date: February 5, 2014
To: Steve Goss
From: Ric Beers RB
Subject: Board Report

The 2012-2013 School year was a relatively safe year for Vicksburg Schools. Our mechanics did their usual awesome job and we had another good inspection. The state has changed some criteria for the way inspections will be done this year. It will be interesting to see the results.

Last year we drove 378,600 miles plus approximately 25,000 additional miles for athletic and band trips for a combined total of 403,600 miles. This is an increase over last year's total mileage, mostly due to a change in our special education routes.

Attached you will find our state report and a spreadsheet associated with transportation cost for the year, remember that the state only allows us to claim certain things for reimbursement, therefore not showing a clear transportation cost.

I'd like to thank the board for approving the purchase of nine new school buses for this year. I don't believe that Vicksburg Schools have ever purchased this many buses at one time. I know it was a large commitment, but very much needed. The new Bluebirds were a big change compared to our other buses but after becoming familiar with them we are very pleased with and we apologize to the nearby neighborhood for all the bus alarms that went off the first few days.

One major issue for transportation anywhere and this includes most of the United States is a shortage of drivers. There are a number of reasons for this; Lack of qualified personnel (candidates who cannot pass a background check), people unwilling to take on the liability and responsibility that comes with the job and it's part time work, especially now that we have all day kindergarten.

Some other transportation issues are:

About three years ago, there was a push in the state to have bus drivers go to a Department of Transportation physical card. The reasoning was that districts would save on cost, instead of getting a physical every year; schools would send a driver every other year. It was a good idea, except that the federal government is requiring some extra steps for physicians administering the exams and it's basically going to double the cost of a physical so, were right back where we started from with additional paperwork for us and the physicians.

Currently, when a driver either gets a physical or renews their driver's license, they must declare whether they're a non-accepted inter or intra-state driver. The driver makes their declaration (up to this point a non-accepted interstate driver) to the Secretary of State send that information is forwarded to the State of Michigan, which this office must keep track of. Now this must be done each time a driver renews their physical or their commercial driver's license. If they fail to do this, they will lose their endorsements and the state is not required to let us or the driver know. This requires more attention to detail on our part to keep us current and out of trouble.

There is a way around some of this. We can just have every driver declare that they are a non-accepted intra-state driver. That takes some of the red tape away from the physicians. We would then have to consider whether we would keep two or three drivers with interstate designation or just not go out of state anymore. Obviously, there would have to be discussion and a board decision if a change was made.

Another challenge on the horizon in the State of Michigan is field trips and spectator buses, etc. There has been some discussion at the state level, that if a district charges for a field trip or a spectator bus, we would be required to have a D.O.T number on our bus. Just like all the private buses you see. If you charge for a trip, even just to cover cost, there may come a time where we have to get a D.O.T sticker and oh, and by the way, the cost is \$250. I haven't heard it mentioned, but I think that someone in the state level is thinking about a fuel surcharge (tax) for such things.

One of our bigger challenges that we face as a department is the many multiple addresses that we service for students. Between notes and calendars and phone calls and more notes, I think that between the schools, our drivers and our office, we do pretty a good job at getting our students where they need to go. I see us using technology eventually to manage this. Picture if you will, buses that have tablets (nook, ipad, etc) secured to the bus and when they get to an elementary building, a WIFI signal downloads relevant student information to that driver.

We're not there yet, but I don't think we're too far from something like this being a possibility. I think that's kind of exciting to anticipate.

I mentioned just a few of the challenges that we are or may be facing in the future. That being said; even though I mumble about retiring more than I used to (just my way of venting), I do really enjoy coming into work most days and appreciate being able to work with my staff and for Charlie, Steve and the board.

Thanks for your time.

fmrptSE4094Printout

FID Application

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2012-2013 SE-4094 Transportation Expenditures

39170 - Vicksburg Community Schools

Contact: Ric Beers

Phone: 269-321-1075

Email: rbeers@vicksburgschools.org

LINE	Account Code Description	Reg/Voc Ed		Spec Ed-Sec. 52		Spec Ed-Sec. 53a		Total
		FTE	Expenditure	FTE	Expenditure	FTE	Expenditure	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
1	Supervision	0	0	0	0			0
2	Bus Driver	17.31	242,394	4.12	81,356	0	0	323,750
3	Secretarial/Clerical	0.98	33,647	0.02	687			34,334
4	Aides	0	0	2.00	21,155	0	0	21,155
5	Other Support	0.98	76,105	0.02	1,485			77,590
6	TOTAL SALARIES	19.27	352,146	6.16	104,683	0	0	456,829
7	Employee Benefits		202,806		35,156		0	237,962
8	Local Expenses		784		16		0	800
9	Telephone/Postage		0		0			0
10	Other Utilities		6,340		0			6,340
11	Purch Serv - Staff	0.98	65,225	0.02	1,331	0	0	66,556
12	Other Non-Veh Purch Serv		0		0			0
13	TOTAL NON-VEH RELATED P/S		72,349		1,347		0	73,696
14	Pupil Trans Common Carrier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Pupil Trans Common Carrier (black/yellow)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Pupil Trans Family Veh Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Pupil Trans Taxi Cab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Pupil Trans Fleet Insurance	18	10,407	4	2,312	0	0	12,719
19	Contracted/Leased Buses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Other Vehicle Related Costs		19,259		180	0	0	19,439
21	TOTAL VEHICLE RELATED P/S		29,666		2,492		0	32,158
22	Gasoline/Fuel		120,667		28,743		0	149,410
23	Oil/Grease		5,782		520		0	6,302
24	Tires/Batteries		18,842		3,878		0	22,720
25	Other Supplies/Repair Parts		51,762		5,109			56,871
26	Office Supplies		770		16			786
27	TOTAL SUPPLIES		197,823		38,266		0	236,089
28	Other Expense/Adjustment		0		0		0	0
29	Bus Amortization		94,575		33,639		0	128,214
30	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		949,365		215,583		0	1,164,948
31	Total Annual Miles		296,955		81,645		0	378,600
32	Riders Per the Count Week		1327.0		38.8		0	1,366
33	Total Fuel Consumed (in gallons)		37,129		8,844		0	45,973
34	Miles per Gallon		8.00		9.23		0.00	8.24

ASN	Description	Fund/Trx	Function	Object	Program	State	Facility	Other	Dtr
27128	TRANS MECHANIC SALARY	112	271	1550	0	0	0	0	77,659.56
27117	TRANS MISCELLANEOUS SALAR	112	271	1590	0	0	0	0	6,590.43
27319	HOMELESS TRANS SALARY	112	271	1610	0	0	0	99	1,701.46
27519	B4K BUS DRIVER SALARY	112	271	1610	0	3760	0	0	12,626.15
27109	TITLE BUS DRIVER SALARY	112	271	1610	0	3060	0	399	12,926.00
27219	SP ED BUS DRIVER SAL	112	271	1610	394	0	0	0	79,138.03
27118	BUS DRIVER REG SALARY	112	271	1610	0	0	0	0	230,698.65
27719	EFE BUS DRIVER SAL	112	271	1611	0	0	0	0	33,692.73
27111	BUS WASHING SALARIES	112	271	1612	0	0	0	0	2,550.00
27112	SUMMER SCH DRVR SAL	112	271	1613	0	0	0	0	7,562.55
27419	BUS DRV EXTRA TRIP SAL	112	271	1614	0	0	0	0	30,641.53
27120	TRANS-DRIVER OVERTIME	112	271	1617	0	0	0	0	2,473.45
27115	TRANS SECY SALARY	112	271	1620	0	0	0	0	34,334.61
27214	SPEC ED BUS AIDE SAL	112	271	1630	394	0	0	0	21,155.62
27116	TRANS SUB DRIV REG SAL	112	271	1860	0	0	0	0	11,695.03
27712	EFE SUB DRIVER SALARY	112	271	1861	0	0	0	0	180.79
27312	HOMELESS TRANS SUB SALARY	112	271	1861	0	0	0	1	986.20
27212	SPEC ED SUB DRIVER SALARY	112	271	1861	394	0	0	0	2,173.99
27127	TRANS SUPV LTD	112	271	2121	0	0	0	0	273.68
27134	TRANSPORTATION LIFE	112	271	2122	0	0	0	0	53.63
27121	TRANS HEALTH INS	112	271	2130	0	0	0	0	80,084.99
27122	TRANS DENTAL INS	112	271	2140	0	0	0	0	16,130.40
27123	TRANS VISION INS	112	271	2150	0	0	0	0	3,133.69
27194	MECHANIC OTHER BENEFITS	112	271	2190	0	0	0	0	506.75
27196	TRANS PHYS & LICENSES	112	271	2410	0	0	0	0	2,742.00
27326	HOMELESS TRANS RETIREMENT	112	271	2820	0	0	0	99	683.61
27526	B4K TRANS RETIREMENT	112	271	2820	0	3760	0	0	2,402.90
27226	SPEC ED DRIVER RETIRE	112	271	2820	394	0	0	0	27,216.55
27130	TRANS RETIREMENT	112	271	2820	0	0	0	0	110,347.24
27525	B4K TRANS FICA	112	271	2830	0	3760	0	0	919.59
27125	TRANS FICA	112	271	2830	0	0	0	0	41,228.15
27193	TRANS WORKERS COMP	112	271	2840	0	0	0	0	11,868.27
27124	TRANS CASH IN LIEU	112	271	2920	0	0	0	0	12,804.50

27133	TRANS PESG PURCHASED SERVICE	112	271	3112	0	0	0	0	0	0	66,555.78
27163	TRANS FINGERPRINTING	112	271	3195	0	0	0	0	0	0	180.00
27162	TRANS TRAV/CONF/IS	112	271	3220	0	0	0	0	0	0	800.83
27165	TRANS STUDENT REIMB	112	271	3320	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,467.20
27170	TRANS INSURANCE	112	271	3930	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,119.00
27172	TRANS RADIO REPAIR	112	271	4120	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,605.70
27173	TRANS CONTRACT SERVICE	112	271	4130	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,279.59
27168	TRANS MECH UNIFORM RENTL	112	271	4290	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,722.56
27151	TRANS NATURAL GAS	112	271	5511	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,193.38
27152	TRANS ELECTRICITY	112	271	5521	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,197.58
27174	TRANS OIL AND GREASE	112	271	5710	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,302.10
27355	HOMELESS FUEL	112	271	5712	0	0	0	0	99	0	200.00
27155	TRANS FUEL	112	271	5712	0	0	0	0	0	0	188,575.06
27175	TRANS TIRE & BATTERY	112	271	5720	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,720.68
27176	TRANS PARTS	112	271	5730	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,925.88
27177	TRANS MISC SUPPLY	112	271	5790	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,946.86
27178	TRANS SMALL TOOLS	112	271	5791	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,134.42
27179	TRANS OFFICE SUPPLY	112	271	5910	0	0	0	0	0	0	786.19
27197	TRANS BUS PURCHASES	112	271	6650	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,129.88
											1,377,025.42