



TRANSPORTATION

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To: Board of Education
From: Corrina Horton
Re: Board Report
Date: February 4, 2026

Staffing and Training

The Transportation Department continues to make progress toward staffing stability. One driver has completed bus driver training and is fully certified, with additional drivers currently in training. Due to weather-related scheduling challenges, some training sessions were rescheduled. The department anticipates completing training and achieving full route coverage by mid-February, with the final route expected to be fully staffed before February 16, 2026.

One driver remains in training and is currently assigned to a route that does not require a CDL while continuing to work toward CDL completion.

Fleet and Equipment

To support the district's aging fleet, the department is utilizing four off-lease buses, providing additional flexibility and reliability. Drivers are transitioning to Blue Bird buses that are now in service on regular routes. While there are differences in control layouts and operation compared to other vehicles, drivers are provided time to become familiar with each bus before operating it on an assigned route. No driver is permitted to operate a bus until they are confident and comfortable with the vehicle. Both drivers and students have responded positively, and the transition has been proceeding smoothly.

Operations and Seasonal Challenges

Winter weather and seasonal road conditions have presented challenges to daily operations. In response, the department continues to refine reaction plans and internal communication processes to support timely decision-making during weather-related disruptions.

Communication Improvements

The Transportation Department continues to work on improving communication with families during bus delays, with a focus on providing clear and timely information.

Department Focus Moving Forward

The Transportation Department remains focused on safety, staffing stability, and continuous improvement in service to students and families.

Respectfully,
Corrina Horton, Transportation Supervisor
Chelsea School District