



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

7D. Report

Date: May 8, 2006

SUBJECT: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

BOARD GOAL: All systems in the Keller Independent School District will be effective, efficient, and accountable in support of the district's mission.

The Keller Independent School District will develop and promote positive community relations through effective communication, the involvement of stakeholders, and the establishment of business and community partnerships.

FISCAL NOTE: Budgeted Funds

Background Information:

- The transportation department provides an annual summary of transportation activities during the school year
 - Data for this summary are being gathered and will be posted to the district's web-site following the wrap-up of transportation services for the school year
- The administration plans to undertake a comprehensive review and evaluation of the transportation department, which is currently scheduled to begin in late summer
 - The evaluation will focus on the following areas:
 - The current facility and the degree to which it hinders or facilitates efficient transportation-related operations
 - Routing and scheduling based on route evaluation criteria
 - Fleet maintenance in terms of potential contractual cost impact to the district of inventory control practices, preventative maintenance, part changing vs. efficient repair practices, overall condition of the fleet, and mechanic efficiency
 - Driver training, morale and management practices
- The report presented at the board meeting will focus on transportation-related options that the administration has been developing and considering with respect to the opening of two new schools on Keller Hicks Road

Administrative Considerations:

- Numerous concerns have been brought to the district and the City of Fort Worth regarding safety of students to and from the new Middle and Intermediate schools on Keller Hicks Road.
- The current CFA with the City of Fort Worth provides that the district will add one full lane at its expense to Keller Hicks Road as well as install improvements, including a signal, at the intersection of Keller Hicks and Alta Vista.
- Because of delays associated with the relocation of franchise utilities on Keller Hicks Road, it is possible that construction of these improvements will not begin before school starts and may be delayed until several weeks after the start of school, depending on the outcome of discussions with the various franchise utility companies involved.
- The administration and transportation department have been considering options that will involve the district providing temporary busing to facilitate the safe passage of students to and from these schools.
- The most likely option involves running four (4) temporary shuttle routes that will serve the areas of Woodland Springs, Woodland Springs West, Crawford Farms, and Bear Creek Meadow.
 - A double-tiered system is recommended using four (4) 71-passenger buses, which will provide access for 58-60 students per bus.
 - The district is working with its engineer, construction firm, and the City of Fort Worth to provide a possible alternate access point to the Middle school off of Alta Vista, in addition to the regular ingress/egress points along Keller Hicks Road for both schools.
 - This alternate access point, if approved and installed, will reduce the amount of turn-around time required for the second leg of the shuttle.
- This option is expected to cost the district nearly \$780 per day based on using four (4) 71-passenger buses.
 - Of the options considered, this is the most costly, yet it provides maximum efficiency in terms of the numbers of students that can be served.
 - It is not certain that this temporary service will be needed for the entire school year, depending on the impact of the scheduled CFA improvements as well as the public's adjustment to traffic patterns once the schools are opened and operating.
- The transportation department is preparing maps and schedules of the routes and has also requested maps showing the number of students located along the routes.

- The demographic maps are currently being finished and the entire packet of information will be presented to each board member at the board meeting.

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Respectfully submitted,

Bill Stone, Asst. Supt.
Business Operations