

## **Transportation Report February 2023 Activities**

The ISD #709 Transportation department manages both a district owned fleet of vehicles and district employees, including bus drivers, monitors, and mechanics, along with the coordination of contracted transportation services through Voyageur Bus Company.

Latest update on the new buses- Still waiting for delivery as they should be done by the 15th.

The transition to “Student Transportation” formerly Traversa for routing has been going through the training stages and will continue through this month after which we will transition over completely. Our department continues to navigate daily changes in routing per school requests.

There are daily changes on a total of 434 individual routes (routing, day changes, time changes, etc.).

### Staffing (comments and concerns)

- Staffing has continued to be a challenge as we are not getting applicants for the open positions
- I have one driver trainee that has been moving through the training rapidly and has been helping cover van routes as well.
- We had hired an assistant but he resigned after 3 days so we will be looking for someone else

### Bus Maintenance

- Scheduled maintenance has been progressing but slowly as the new mechanic is also covering a van route and a helper position for a sped bus
- We continue to deal with an aging fleet and the many issues that brings ie, rusting brake lines and worn out mechanicals.
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The average fleet age is 7.5 years. Current average mileage has not been estimated for the month since most of us have been out on buses and have not had time for anything else (goal is 50,000 – 60,000).

We are doing everything we can to keep up with the demands of routing and bussing students and we are just managing with the current staff but everyone is getting tired due to the long hours every day. I continue to assure them we will get through this together as a team.