

## **Transportation Report May 2021 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.

The Transportation department uses Versatrans as its student transportation software. The department has been busy maintaining its 434 individual routes with many, many various changes as students return from distance learning to in person, sports return, etc. End of year route management includes making updates to current routes and building routes for the FY22 school year (double entry).

Starting to build summer school routes for many various groups such as Shooting for the Stars, ESY, work experience, etc.

We are experiencing a bus driver shortage (long term illnesses, COVID quarantine, etc.) but have managed to cut and/or consolidate routes to cover. Two new trainees have passed their tests and are now driving and the Transportation manager fills in regularly when needed.

The Transportation department is still following current COVID guidelines for spacing on buses with mandated face coverings (with exceptions). Seating charts are being developed for contact tracing.

Bus maintenance is ongoing with the fleet. Items completed on various vehicles this month include routine general maintenance, brake servicing, brake replacement, manual regenerations (emissions system), flat tire replacement, stop arm replacement, etc.

The average fleet age is 7 years with an average mileage of 79,210 (goal is 50,000 – 60,000)