

Transportation Report January 2024 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.

Our department continues to navigate daily changes in routing for general ed and Sped busing. We are working in the new system fully and are working towards the full automatic capability in it.

Staffing (comments and concerns)

- Staffing has continued to be a challenge as we are still a short two helpers. We are also short on drivers and have one retiring in the near future.
- Assistant Transportation Manager, Joe Killian, has been dealing with staff, their concerns and occasionally has to sub a route.
- We had a driver that went through the hiring process at the end of December but then never came back.

Bus Maintenance

- Buses are still having issues due to age and rust, but we are getting them back into usable condition.
- We are waiting on 2 used buses to arrive at the dealer that we have selected to help fill the gap in working buses.
- Transportation just put in an order for two vans as we are in desperate need of more

Our oldest bus is a model year 2010 and the next oldest are three 2011's. Current average mileage 108,335 and this is with our two new buses bringing it down a bit (goal is 50,000 – 60,000).