

Board Report: Transportation Department

Reporting Period: January / February 2026

To: Hallsville ISD Board of Trustees

From: Transportation Department

Operations & Weather Response

The past month tested our resilience with significant icy weather conditions. I am proud to report that the department handled the challenge with excellence:

- **Proactive Maintenance:** During the freeze, core transportation staff reported to the shop to "crank" buses, ensuring all systems remained operational.
- **Facility Safety:** Staff worked diligently to clear walking paths around the lot to ensure a safe environment for drivers and monitors.
- **Execution:** On the first day of classes following the freeze, drivers navigated lingering slick spots with extreme caution. Thanks to their professionalism and "safety first" mindset, all routes were completed without incident.

Fleet Modernization & Strategy

We are formally presenting a proposal to purchase **10 new buses**. This acquisition is a strategic move to modernize our fleet and improve the student experience:

- **Climate Control:** These new units will ensure that students ride in a climate-controlled environment year-round. Critically, this provides "AC-continuity"—even if a primary bus is in the shop, our spare capacity will now include climate-controlled options.
- **Mileage Management:** By integrating these new vehicles, we can better rotate the fleet to keep mileage even across the board.
- **Specialized Usage:** The addition of new trip buses is already paying off, as it allows us to keep high-mileage long-distance travel off our standard route buses, extending the lifespan of the entire fleet.

Personnel & Safety

Our commitment to excellence continues through our team and our culture:

- **New Hire:** We have successfully recruited a new mechanic with specific experience in bus maintenance. He is already proving to be a valuable addition to the shop, helping us maintain our high standards for vehicle uptime.
- **Core Philosophy:** While we focus on logistics and upgrades, **Safety remains our #1 priority**. Every decision made—from hiring to equipment purchases—is viewed through the lens of student and staff safety and security.

Summary: The department is in a strong position. Our staff is dedicated, our maintenance program is expanding, and the proposed fleet upgrades will set a new standard for student comfort and operational efficiency in Hallsville ISD.

Thanks,

Roy Presley