

Date: March 3, 2015
To: Steve Goss, Assistant Superintendent
From: Ric Beers, Transportation Director
Subject: Yearly Board Report

2013-2014 was a good year for Vicksburg Transportation. Our bus inspection came after last year's board report. I am pleased to say that we received a perfect inspection. This year was not quite as good, we received one red tag for a hairline crack in a cross member and a yellow tag for a cracked exhaust hanger (still holding) and an intermittent horn when the steering wheel was turned. The inspection time spent on buses by the inspector has doubled, so I am very satisfied with the results. The tag on the cross member was warranted (this was on one of our newer buses) I think the other two was kind of nit-picking. Al Reynolds and Brad Russell do an outstanding job. Working on buses is not the only thing they do. Bubba plows snow in the winter and they both drive in the afternoon a lot.

Last year our drivers put on 420,412 miles on our fleet for regular and special ed buses, with an additional 28,000 miles on trips for a total of 440,412 miles for the year. In the last couple of years our mileage has increased due to extra special education routes and covering students that have become homeless.

One of the things I mentioned last year, was the shortage of drivers. This is a constant problem in this state as well as most of the country. There are a few reasons for this. While our economy is lagging, it is picking up. That means more competition with full time work. In fact, we have lost five drivers this year so far because they were able to work full time somewhere else. I was one week away from having a trainee do a road test when he was offered a full time job recently. Plus we had one driver retire and one regular substitute quit. Basically people are quitting faster than I can hire.

That brings me to commending our drivers that are still here and our mechanics. We all realized at the beginning of the year that it was going to be very tight driver wise. My drivers have had very good attendance this year. Many have perfect attendance so far. When you have as much below zero weather as we have had and you don't feel good, it takes a real commitment to be here. When it's -10 below, these buses do not warm up very fast. It's a real temptation to just stay in bed!

We still continue to struggle with the new D.O.T. physicals. Sleep apnea is something that some physicians push, but it's not consistent. I have had a couple of drivers spend nearly \$3,000 for the study and machine. This limits those looking for work also. There are many of our drivers, if they had to go through this process, would not stay.

We could talk about all the multiple addresses and distracted drivers in the public out there, etc. In reality, I think that most of us enjoy the challenge. No two days are alike it does make your day go by pretty quickly. What we do is important and we get a great deal of satisfaction from that.

Attached, you will find the 2013-2014 SE-4094 state report.

frmrptSE4094Printout

FID Application

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2013-2014 SE-4094 Transportation Expenditures

39170 - Vicksburg Community Schools

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LINE	Account Code Description	Reg/Voc Ed		Spec Ed-Sec. 52		Spec Ed-Sec. 53a		Total
		FTE	Expenditure	FTE	Expenditure	FTE	Expenditure	
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
1	Supervision	0	0	0	0			0
2	Bus Driver	18.30	223,101	4.28	64,014	0	0	287,115
3	Secretarial/Clerical	0.98	42,253	0.02	863			43,116
4	Aides	0	0	1.95	21,193	0	0	21,193
5	Other Support	0.98	74,955	0.02	1,530			76,485
6	TOTAL SALARIES	20.26	340,309	6.27	87,600	0	0	427,909
7	Employee Benefits		253,331		32,102		0	285,433
8	Local Expenses		0		0		0	0
9	Telephone/Postage		754		0			754
10	Other Utilities		2,894		60			2,954
11	Purch Serv - Staff	0.98	69,974	0.02	1,428	0	0	71,402
12	Other Non-Veh Purch Serv		0		0			0
13	TOTAL NON-VEH RELATED P/S		73,622		1,488		0	75,110
14	Pupil Trans Common Carrier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Pupil Trans Common Carrier (black/yellow)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Pupil Trans Family Veh Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Pupil Trans Taxi Cab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Pupil Trans Fleet Insurance	28	18,716	4	2,276	0	0	20,992
19	Contracted/Leased Buses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Other Vehicle Related Costs		18,162		384	0	0	18,546
21	TOTAL VEHICLE RELATED P/S		36,878		2,660		0	39,538
22	Gasoline/Fuel		140,122		34,415		0	174,537
23	Oil/Grease		2,573		381		0	2,954
24	Tires/Batteries		9,159		2,368		0	11,527
25	Other Supplies/Repair Parts		16,905		345			17,250
26	Office Supplies		941		20			961
27	TOTAL SUPPLIES		169,700		37,529		0	207,229
28	Other Expense/Adjustment		0		0		0	0
29	Bus Amortization		94,575		33,639		0	128,214
30	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		968,415		195,018		0	1,163,433
31	Total Annual Miles		351,430		68,982		0	420,412
32	Riders Per the Count Week		1343.0		36.2		0	1,379

33	Total Fuel Consumed (in gallons)		43,490		9,330		0	52,820
34	Miles per Gallon		8.08		7.39		0.00	7.96