

Transportation Report March 2022 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 is busy building and/or updating about 430+ routes, many field trips and coordinating with Voyageur. There are *many* updates daily.

- 41 trips happened in March, 2022
- 50 scheduled so far for April, 2022

Two drivers have completed their training. One more is in the process of finishing. Unfortunately, one driver stayed through training only to quit on the day after his test. COVID continues to be a concern, due to quarantine time.

As of February 7th 2022, the FMCSA has instituted the ELDT program for entry level drivers. This is a far more complex system than the previous and has required that Steven Johnson take lead on training since this is a new system and the protocol needs to be set. Also, since the ELDT requires that anyone training other drivers have a license the same or better than the one they are teaching for, this has removed a trainer as our router/trainer (Tobin) has not made that deadline.

In terms of COVID response, drivers have access to a Hudson sprayer with Virex to be used between routes for disinfection. Additionally, they have alcohol wipes for their own disinfection purposes. All drivers have access to two electrostatic sprayers as well.

The Transportation Department is pleased to announce the replacement of one engine as we await final approval for the purchase of two new buses.

Routine general bus maintenance is ongoing (wiring/electrical, brakes, stop arms, belts, etc.).

With the addition of the two new buses mentioned above, the average fleet age is 6.6 years. Current average mileage is 76,962 (goal is 50,000 – 60,000).