

Talking Points-Please contact me at [Darleen.vanriper@firstgroup.com](mailto:Darleen.vanriper@firstgroup.com) with any comments or questions

1. **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Don Allison State Safety Exercise**

On June 3, 2023 the 45<sup>th</sup> Don Allison State Safety Exercises, aka Road-EO, commenced after a four-year break due to the pandemic. First Student Lincoln County was able to enter five contestants: Donald Ayarza (General Transit), Dave Boyce (General Conventional), Brandy Hewson (General Conventional), Shane Burke (General Transit), and Paul Johnson (Novice Conventional). The exercise course included events such as Left Turn, Diminishing Clearance, Curb/Stop Line, Student Loading and a written knowledge test. Donald placed 4<sup>th</sup> in his category and Paul Johnson placed second in his category.

It was a beautiful day on the grounds of the Eugene First Baptist Church with lots of comraderie, Korean Short Ribs, HuliHuli Chicken, pot-luck salads, and a friendly competition spirit.



2. **Safe Seating Practice**

In the past, we brought a bus to the school if there was a need to practice safe-sitting. We are still available to do so; however, we all know that it sometimes takes a little more practice to master a skill. For those situations, Donald Ayarza, First Student Shop Manager, mounted a spare seat to a wooden base and delivered it to Toledo Elementary School, so students there could have the opportunity to practice sitting safely in their seats with their seatbelts buckeled correctly.

If other schools are in need of this practice seat, they are more than welcome to reach out to Darleen Van Riper at 541-336-5101 to request the use of the seat for those students who need that little extra support in becoming succesful riders.



3. **First Student Summer Activities**

It has become a tradition to end the school year with our employees and their families at a pot-luck event on 06/16/2023 at Beverly Beach State Park. It is another "Triple Charlie" event that translates to Chester's Chicken at the Coast. Other events include a Lu'au, the Beachcomber Day Parade, and many Touch-a-Truck events throughout the county.

4. **Driver/Candidate Comparison Report (as of 05/03/2023)**

	5/9/2023		6/5/2023	
Lincoln County Bus Routes	73	Driver Shortage	73	Driver Shortage
Drivers on hand (as of 11/1/2022, LOA excluded)	55	18	55	18
Out of Town Drivers	3	15	3	15
Routes not currently serviced (combos)	14	1	14	1
Other Considerations:				
Cover Drivers positions not staffed	3	21	3	21
Route Monitor positions not staffed	0		0	
Drivers on LOA/FMLA/WC (Regular & Casual)	4		4	
Casual Drivers with limited availability	7		7	
LCSD & FS Staff (1 & 9) Available to Drive	10		10	

Please note that this information is subject to frequent changes.

May was a "quiet" month in regards to training. We still have seven candidates at varying stages in the program, and one of them will test on 06/08/2023. Once he is ODE qualified, he will take a route in the north. We continue to have several drivers out on LOA, and our OOT drivers will return to Seattle on June 15, 2023.

We are already looking at the next school year to see how we can best facilitate transportation with the number of drivers/candidates we are retaining and are hoping to gain.

5. **Summer Recruiting**

Our Summer Recruiting Events will include "Feet-to-Street" at local events, parades, farmers' markets, and banner buses. This year we will also have banners in Spanish, so we can reach our spanish-speaking community members. We will need to make any applicants aware that is is currently federal law that all CDL holders must be able to speak and read English at a sufficient level. Sufficient is defined as speaking and reading English well enough to converse with the general public, understand traffic signs and highway signals in English, respond to official inquiries, and make reports and records in English.