Transportation Update

October 6, 2021
Agenda

• Interim Superintendent, Tianay Amat
  • CPS/SORTA Update

• Interim Director of Transportation, Leniese Fuqua
  • Status of Director of Transportation Search
  • Status of FY 2023 - 2027 Yellow Bus RFP
  • Status of Current Yellow Bus Performance

• OSBA Transportation Consultant, Doug Palmer
  • Feasibility of adding Yellow Bus service for 7th- and 8th graders
CPS/ SORTA Meeting

CPS and Metro met on Friday, October 1 at 1:30

• CPS Attendees:
  • Board Member Eve Bolton
  • Interim Superintendent Tianay Amat

• SORTA Attendees:
  • Board Chair Kreg Keesee
  • Board Member Brendon Cull
  • CEO Darryl Haley
Meeting Summary

- CPS shared that families and principals continue to be concerned about length of bus rides and timeliness of arrivals – SORTA agreed to meet with schools and families.
- CPS inquired about length of time on bus, number of transfers, busses passing students up or not showing up, current design of routes that make students tardy and ability to add/improve routes.
- CPS asked several clarifying questions including regarding charter/private school students getting to school, definitions of unique riders, unique students and eligible students.
- SORTA indicated they would not restore routes this academic year and continues to have challenges recruiting bus drivers.
- CPS is researching a Yellow Option for 7th - and 8th Graders.
Next Steps

- CPS will continue to share data with SORTA regarding late arrivals and dismissals, long bus rides (1+ hours) so they can problem-solve.

- SORTA will meet with families at high schools to discuss routes that are longer than they should be and share correct route information.

- SORTA will send a letter to families to clarify correct routes.

- SORTA to email Interim Superintendent daily ridership for each student and how long bus ride (to and from school) should be, as well as a list of students with no transfers, one transfer, more than one transfer.
Interim Director of Transportation

Leniese Fuqua
Transportation Director Position

• Position has been posted
  • Linked In
  • District webpage
  • Ohio Pupil Transportation Association
  • National Pupil Transportation Association
  • Ohio School Boards Association job board

• Currently reviewing applications
Yellow Bus RFP

- RFP is for five years with possible two 1-year renewals
- Final RFP review on October 21st, with a post date of October 25th
- Pre-bid meeting scheduled for November 4th
- RFPs due on November 12th
- Evaluations of RFPs completed by November 17th
- Estimated submission date to board is November 22nd
Current Yellow Bus On-Time Performance

Cincinnati Public Schools
FY 2022 Yellow Bus On-Time Percentage

Weeks of Schools

Power Outage

66%  74%  75%  79%  72%  79%
Yellow bus service for 7th- and 8th Grades

• Establishing ridership estimates
  • Statistical average of 65% of grade ADM was used to calculate the number of estimated riders

• Identifying possible routes to link
  • Single routed buses without links

• Analyzing school anchor times and locations
  • Schools need to be located close to each other with bell schedules that allow the links to function

• Currently in communication with vendors for service level increases and their capabilities
Estimated 7th- and 8th Grade Yellow Bus Ridership

Cincinnati Public Schools
FY 2022 Estimated Ridership (65% of Enrollment) for 7th and 8th Graders

- Aiken New Tech High School: 245
- Clark Montessori High School: 164
- Gilbert A. Diker High School: 111
- Hughes STEM High School: 247
- James N. Gamble Montessori High School: 197
- Oyler School: 72
- Shroder High School: 176
- Robert A. Taft Information Technology High School: 133
- Walnut Hills High School: 534
- Western Hills University High School: 274
- Withrow University High School: 230
- Woodward Career Technical High School: 157
Estimated 7th- and 8th Grade Yellow Buses Needed
Estimated 32 riders per bus best case scenario
OSBA Transportation Consultant

Doug Palmer
Cost of Adding Yellow Buses for 7th- and 8th Grade

- Under the current rate structure for Yellow Bus:
  - The estimated daily cost is $15,250
  - The estimated monthly cost is $305,012
  - The estimated annual cost is $2,790,850
- The estimated cost per student based on estimated yellow bus ridership is $1,130
  - The average state cost per student is $1,077
Next steps in process for 7th- and 8th Grade Yellow Bus study

• Study school bell schedules to find linkable routes and locations
• Examine added buses’ capacity and availability
• Determine eligibility for ridership
• Communicate to and with all stakeholders on the progress of this service expansion study
The Future is Bright

- Student-Centered Decision Making
- Health and Safety
- Community Engagement and Influence
- Optimized Capabilities
- Growth