

Memo

To: See Distribution

From: Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services

Date: December 16, 2011

Subject: Minutes from the Student Transportation Committee Meeting on 12/16/11

A meeting of East Hartford Public Schools and the First Student Bus Company's Student Transportation Committee was held on Friday, November 18, 2011 in the Business Services Office, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT. Paul Mainuli called the meeting to order at 9:05a.m.

PRESENT George Simons, Transportation Coordinator
Paul Mainuli, Director of Business Services
Mike McDaniel, First Student Bus Company
Barbara Walz, First Student Bus Company

Status of Bus Schedules and Routes – FY 2011-12

Mr. Simons told the committee that a new special education bus route set up for a student at Hockanum School was on time this morning. The change in the bus route appears to have addressed the needs of the student and parents.

There were no other bus schedule or route issues to report.

Status of Router Position

Mr. McDaniel stated that First Student will have to post the position on Career Builders and begin recruitment for an outside candidate. Until a qualified router can be hired, First Student will continue to provide this service on a part time basis. Mr. Simons reiterated the need to have a Router in place to deal with the daily requests for changes. Mr. McDaniel agreed to begin the recruitment process.

Status of Bell Times and Bus Route Changes for FY 2012-13

Mr. McDaniel told the committee that he would work with staff during the holiday break to develop more efficient bus routes for the district. As part of this effort, he will also look at ways to reduce costs through the elimination of bus routes and vehicles. Mr. Mainuli advised the group that there may be changes to existing school programs currently under consideration by the Board. These changes will affect bell times at certain schools. He agreed to notify the committee as soon as the Board takes action on the changes.

Discussion of Smart Bus Program for East Hartford

Mr. Mainuli has asked First Student to provide information on the Smart Bus Program currently in operation at their bus sites in West Hartford and New Haven. The Smart Bus Program allows for the installation of cameras on a bus to record traffic violations on high traffic roads. The car drivers are then issued traffic tickets. A portion of the traffic ticket revenues received from this program is returned to the town. This program was brought forward to the Board by the town. Mr. Mainuli stated that the Smart Bus Program information will be forwarded to the town for consideration

Other Business

Mr. Simons raised concerns about the driver of Bus #6 at the middle school. There are daily disciplinary issues on that bus. Mr. McDaniel agreed to speak with the bus driver while Mr. Simons agreed to work with the staff at the middle school to resolve this issue.

There was no other business to discuss at the meeting.

The Student Transportation Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next Student Transportation Meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2012 at 9:00a.m.

Attachment

Distribution: M. Zito
All Board Members
G. Simons
M. McDaniel