

MINUTES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

PRESENT: MARLENE POLLOCK, JOHN FLETCHER
ABSENT: TOM CLARK

The meeting convened at 6:30 pm.

Route boundaries were disseminated to the Committee to show, by street address, what compiles each neighborhood school. Geographical maps of the two mile radius around each location were also disseminated to the Committee. Ms. Pollock questioned the boundaries for Normandin and Keith Middle Schools. The School Committee took a vote in 2005 to shift boundaries affecting the then 6th grade students at Hayden McFadden and Pacheco Elementary Schools.

The next order of business, Ms. Pollock entered into discussion of the Lincoln shuttle. After discussion, on a motion by Dr. Fletcher and seconded by Ms. Pollock, the issue was referred to the full School Committee for discussion as the members in attendance had different understanding on the issue.

Ms. Pollock stated that since the last meeting, she met with Mr. Oliveira to review all transportation contracts for the District. Discussion ensued about special needs transportation, which costs have not increased over the previous year.

The Committee was informed that regular education routes would be bid out in the spring. Mr. Oliveira stated that it is a tight bidding climate. Currently there are 42 doubles, 6 triples and 8 singles. Ms. Pollock requested information on changes in the number of bus routes. Mr. Oliveira explained that there are currently two large contracts for regular education transportation at the Mayor's request. Previously, one large contract was broken down into a) single and triple routes and b) doubles and extra curricula routes. Current costs per route were disclosed in the contracts.

Ms. Pollock asked questions about transportation of the Little Whalers program and summer school routes. She then asked who takes out bid packages. Mr. Oliveira informed her of the bid process.

Ms. Pollock then questioned the dismissal time at the Pulaski Elementary School, the issue of which has since been resolved.

Special needs contracts do not need to be bid out, but are negotiated between the vendor and the School Department's Chief Administrator for Finance & Operations. Contracts are structured similar to the City's solid waste contract. Increases are based on consumer price index. Ms. Pollock asked Mr. Oliveira to research the number of sped busses we use, fuel adjustment clause, mileage per route, what costs the District has incurred for the fuel adjustment clause, lettering on the sides of busses, the pay rates of monitors and what specifically routes 29 and 32 do.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2010

There being no further business, the Sub-Committee voted to adjourn at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lawrence W. Oliveira
Chief Administrator for Finance & Operations
Sub-Committee Liaison