

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

“Busing Committee”

Meeting Minutes

Chaired by: Cyndy Dekuysscher

Date: September 30, 2015

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

In attendance:

Normalee Craig – Standard Bus manager

Carol Coote – AYSCBC

Leona Kains – PCSS

Sherry Goodman – JHES & PCSS

Shannon Cooper – Vanier (CEAY)

Laura Lang - WES

Sandra Henderson - FHC

Bob Walker – School Council Liaison

Cyndy Dekuysscher – Director, Systems & Administration

Judith Steele – Student busing & Transportation

Review of Service contract – School Bus Services – Whitehorse

Improvements have been made to the contract, topics discussed were:

- The Preventative Maintenance Program for all of Standard’s busses in Yukon ensuring safety for all.
- All buses are (2016) new, and designed for Northern climates, with 0 emissions.
- Bus driver requirements (including random drug and alcohol tests).
- Emergency procedures.
- Consistency of regular bus drivers.
- Driver training plan and progressive disciplinary plan
- Operational cameras on all buses
- S/C raised a concern about the length of time students are on the bus at the North Transfer Station
- **Action Items:**
 - Confirming a list of students actually riding the bus by route
 - Department will continue to explore options to reduce the amount of time at the North Transfer Station

Behavior on buses was discussed –

- Lack of consistency of student rules (while on the school buses), between schools was raised.
- The Department of Education has the rules on the website at http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/employers/school_transportation.html and follow the links: Transportation to school, under Safety and Student Transportation Regulations.
- Standard Bus also has rules for students posted in each bus.
- **Action Items:**
 - YG to review Department policy for consistency on student behavior

- YG to review items allowed on school bus – ie: technology
- Standard Bus to provide the list of bus drivers by school to the school administration

Safety Issues – raised by Standard Bus

- Transfer Station at the top of the South Access

Action Item:

- Department to investigate the option of moving the transfer station closer to the Paddle Wheel by the mailboxes.

- Takhini Elementary School – unsafe for students crossing the road

Action Item:

- Department to work with school administration to re-activate the bus loop and Standard Bus to test it for a week. If successful, the Department will provide signs and modify the corners of the cement, pending weather conditions.

- Jack Hulland Elementary – unsafe students regularly cross the road in between buses and oncoming traffic

Action Item:

- Department will look into putting up a fence/barrier to help discourage students darting out into the road.

City bus passes-

- Large number of students currently using the City Transit passes.
- Interest in Student photo id for semester/ year transit pass.

Action Items:

- Develop a process for issuing semester transit passes
- Review the possibility of issuing student ID

Idling school buses-

- Standards buses are equipped with a Wabasco heater. This will improve idling time, especially at transfer stations.

Future Transportation Committee meetings –

- Agreed that meetings will be held quarterly
- Standard Bus has agreed to be present for the first half hour of each meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

I would like to say a big thank you to Normalee for being present and to all who came out for the meeting.