

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

March 2017

MASA Spring Conference

2017-18 Transportation Budget Estimate

- ❑ The 2017-18 budget appropriation in House Bill 2002 is \$69,273,102, a \$14 million decrease to the appropriation that is currently being paid out for the 2016-17 payment year.
- ❑ This will cause an approximate 6% decrease in the funding level.



2016-17 State Transportation Aid Calculation

- The fiscal year 2016-17 state transportation aid calculation is available through the School Finance website. Select Monthly Financial Reports. Input County-District number. The Payment Transmittal is then displayed. Click on the revenue name “Transportation” on the Payment Transmittal to access the transportation aid calculation. The link to School Finance Monthly Financial Reports is <http://dese.mo.gov/financial-admin-services/school-finance/financial-reports>.
- This is the seventh live state transportation calculation made for the current year. The calculation is based on 2015-16 school year data submitted by the district on the state transportation aid documents included in Part IV of the Annual Secretary of the Board Report (Application for State Transportation Aid, School Bus and Facility Depreciation Schedules).
- The percent of reduction to the calculated entitlement computed for the March 2017 calculation is shown below. This reduction percentage represents the amount the entitlement exceeded the appropriation and will fluctuate from month to month as revisions are made to individual school district data. The percent of reduction and the A and B factors are also reflected on each district’s Summary Transportation Report.
- The percentage reduction and the A and B factors are as follows:

	<u>Reduction Factor</u>	<u>A Factor</u>	<u>B Factor</u>
March 2017	71.232347	3.391024	-1.397245



Transportation Calculation Excel Spreadsheet Website Link

- A Microsoft Office Excel spreadsheet of the transportation aid calculation is located on the school transportation website under Entitlement Calculation.
- Districts may download the program and enter the ridership, mileage, expenditure and revenue data and the program will calculate the district's transportation aid based on that data. The district may then save the program on its computer for future use.
- The proration percentage and the state constant A and B factors should always be updated with the most recent actual data and/or projected numbers, in order for the calculation to be as accurate as possible.

Extra-Curricular Trip Bus Accident



2017 National School Bus Illegal Passing Survey

- While school buses remain incredibly safe, we all know that students who ride buses are most vulnerable when they are outside the bus in the “danger zone.”
- April 5, 2017, Missouri will be assisting the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) in coordinating a national survey to determine the prevalence of illegal passing of school buses.
- The data will help improve safety countermeasures at the state or national level.



2015-16 National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey

Total of 4 Fatalities

- ❑ 1 Students Killed by Vehicle Passing School Bus
- ❑ 3 Student Killed by School Bus – Back of Bus
 - Historically 57% of Students are Killed by Their School Bus, 39% by Other Vehicle, 4% Other
- ❑ 2 Waiting at Bus A.M., 2 Getting off Bus P.M.
- ❑ 2 Involved Dropped Object
- ❑ Light Conditions: 1-Dawn, 2-Daylight, 1-Dark
- ❑ Weather Conditions: 3-Clear, 1 Fog
- ❑ Road Conditions: 3-Dry, 1-Wet
- ❑ Road Type: 3-City Street, 1-State Highway
- ❑ Number-Age of Student: 1-2; 2-5, 1-16
- ❑ Gender: 4-Male
- ❑ 4 Fatalities occurred in Sept, Oct, Apr, Jun



NEVADA

- A student riding the school bus was being dropped off at his home. The student's sibling crawled under the school bus and was killed as the bus pulled away.



ALABAMA

- Three students were loading the school bus. Two of the children boarded the bus. However, a five-year-old had dropped something and stopped to pick it up. The child was struck and killed by the bus.



FLORIDA

- A 16-year-old boy was crossing the street to load onto the school bus. The stop arm and eight-way red lights were activated. An oncoming vehicle didn't stop and the student was struck and killed.



KENTUCKY

- A five-year-old boy, who had unloaded from the school bus, was struck and killed by the left front wheel of the bus.



Certified School Bus Driver Instructor Training

- The Certified School Bus Driver Instructor workshop is scheduled for July 26-28, 2017, in Warrensburg.
- The Certified School Bus Driver Instructor recertification training will be held in Columbia on July 21, 2017.
- Registration forms for this training are available <http://dese.mo.gov/financial-admin-services/school-transportation/certified-bus-driver-instructors>, a listing of all current Certified School Bus Driver Instructors can also be viewed at this site.



School Bus Purchases

- Missouri Statute 304.060, RSMo, requires school districts to comply with State Board of Education regulations that set school bus safety standards (this statute carries a “guilty of misconduct” violation for any school employee who does not comply with this requirement). School districts and their school bus contractors are required by State Board of Education Regulation 5 CSR 30-261.025 to operate only school buses that meet Missouri Minimum Standards for School Buses. In addition, school bus manufacturers are also charged in the Minimum Standards with certifying that their product meets the Minimum Standards for School Buses.
- Please make sure that all school bus purchases, *including used school buses*, specify that the school bus meets Missouri Minimum Standards for the year in which the bus was manufactured. Several states do not have the same specifications that Missouri does including the fire block seat upholstery, the second stop arm, and the lower side skirts.



October 16-20, 2017 National School Bus Safety Week



For posters contact NAPT at 800-989-6278.



Ridership List

- The second ridership list for the current school year should have been finalized on the second Wednesday of February (February 8, 2017). This list should be a compilation of the students' names that regularly ride the bus from the beginning of the second semester to the February 8 count day and should identify which students are eligible for state transportation aid (those living one mile or more from school) and those ineligible for state transportation aid (those living less than one mile from school). The compilation of this list should not be effected by the fact that a school district may not have been in session on February 8.
- The ridership list should not be a listing of all students who are eligible or ineligible to ride the buses nor should it be a listing of only those students riding on the count day, but should be a listing of students regularly riding the buses. A student should ride the bus a minimum of once a week to be considered a regular rider.



Annual School Bus Driver Training Required

- Missouri law requires that each school bus driver receive at least 8 hours of annual training.
- This includes regular route drivers, sub drivers, activity and field trip drivers, and school district staff members such as coaches and teachers who drive school buses.
- Training records should include who attended the training, when the training was provided, and the contents of the training.



Non-Conforming Van Use

- Any vehicle that transports 11 or more passengers including the driver that is newly purchased, leased, or contracted must be a school bus and meet all Missouri Minimum Standards for School Buses as well as all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards for School Buses (with the exception of motor coaches).
- *This means that a school district cannot purchase, contract, or rent 12/15/17 passenger vans for the transportation of school children.*



Who must have a School Bus (S) Endorsement?

- State statutes require drivers of any vehicle (including a personal vehicle) who are being compensated for transporting students to/from ANY school event/program to have an “S” endorsement on their license.
- District employees (i.e., teachers, coaches, administrators, secretaries, school nurses, janitors, etc.) who transport students, as an “incident” to employment (i.e., student illness, one-time trip, etc.), are required only to have a valid Class F operator’s license (does not include a large school bus).
- District employees who are hired knowing they will be transporting school children as part of their job (i.e., regularly scheduled field trips, school sponsored activities, etc.) must have a Class E (for hire) license with a school bus (S) endorsement. Vehicles must weigh less than 26,001 lbs. and be capable of transporting 15 or less including the driver.
- In addition, parents or individuals who enter into a contract with the district to transport students in a district owned/district leased vehicle and who are paid a lump sum amount, an hourly wage, or more than the AAA cost per mile must have a Class E license with an S endorsement. These parents or individuals must agree to provide transportation in a safe, inspected, insured, licensed vehicle.
- Note: Any vehicle that is capable of transporting 11 or more including the driver must be a yellow school bus that complies with Missouri Minimum Standards for School Buses.



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