

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

ILLINOIS PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 12, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cathy Allen - IDOT
Bill Beck – Durham Transportation
Beth Derry – ROE # 48
Kevin Duesterhaus – IL SOS
Tim Imler - ISBE
Diana Mikelski – Township HS D211
Mark Morten - ISBE
Corrie Ray – ROE #12
Dave Richards – IAPT Central
Charlie Semple – IAPT Southern
Mike Slife – Rockford Public Schools # 205
Matt Snyder ROE # 39
Mike Stier - ISBE

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Derrick Berlin – IAPT Northern
John Benish – Cook Illinois
Patrick Johnson - ISTA
Tammi Kestel - ISP
Mike Medin – Cook Illinois
Chip Pew – Operation LifeSaver
Mike Reinders – IAPT President
Kim Rentner –Tyler Technologies
Jeff Smith – ROE # 16
Dan Thompson - IDOT
Julie Wollerman – ROE # 3

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Mike Stier.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 7, 2017 MINUTES:

Bill Beck made a motion to approve the March minutes, Mark Morten seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Modes of Transportation Task Force – TIM IMLER

Tim gave a status update on meeting, last one was held December 6th. Final report has been sent to State Superintendent for approval, then will be sent to the Legislature. Tim knew all members wouldn't agree, but everyone did learn a lot as did he. Most were able to understand both sides. The final report is online to view. Reminder the final report is not a binding report. Legislation will be back in the spring; that is when you will need to make your case to them for or against the act. ISBE's vote was represented; not Tim's personal opinion. Tim asked for any questions or comments: They did try to get the word out about the Task Force. Tim wished more stake holders would have participated and gave more input. Tim hopes to get it out on the Superintendent's Message to remind entities that the use of 15 passenger vans is illegal.

FY 18 Evidence-based Funding Formula (PA100.465) – TIM IMLER

Five grant programs were affected by this; General State Aid, Special Education Personnel, Special Education Funding for Children Requiring Services, Special Education Summer School, and English Learner Education. These grants were consolidated and rolled into new funding. Funding will not be held up by the Comptroller and will be distributed twice a month. The Tier-Funding depends on adequacy target amount and local resources. Enrollment is the key factor now instead of attendance; comparing numbers as of Oct. 1st & March 1st. Once computed the payment will be processed and posted. Districts/entities can check FRIS Inquiry for updates/payment status. Transportation was not affected. The Chicago Block Grant was eliminated and they now have to submit claims on grants. FY17 appropriation was lower compared to FY18 because of the Block Grant. Present appropriation-ISBE will be recommending 100% funding on MCATs for the FY19 state budget.

Transportation Claim – MARK MORTEN

Mark is finalizing payments for FY18. Pro-ration is up to approximately 84% for FY18 regular transportation compared to FY17 which was 71%. Special Education is approximately 91% pro-ration.

NASDPTS CONFERENCE OVERVIEW – MIKE STIER

Mike gave an update from the NASDPTS Conference he attended in November. Highlighted topics listed below:

Lap/shoulder belts reduce injury by approx. 35%. Public perception on this subject is key; when brought up for discussion safety doesn't seem to be a priority from the public's point of view. We need to continue to enforce that the Yellow School Bus is the safest form of transportation on the road. NTSB studies show that the use of lap/shoulder belts reduce concussions when in an accident. The 2014 Louisiana bus accident study done before and after accident shows concussions were an issue without safety belts. Matt Snyder asked how many states currently require lap/shoulder belts on buses. (4-5). Tim also noted some other questions that are asked when the subject is brought up. Such as who will pay for the belts to be installed, school, the state, etc. Cathy Allen sees them being already installed on

newly manufactured buses. Doesn't think can be or will be retro fitted on current seats, would have to have new seats.

Innovation in School Buses:

Alternate Fuels: Propane vs. CNG, GHG Gas Phase 2, the future of electric power.

Technology: Web-Based Data Management System, on board Wi-Fi, 360 degree external cameras, routing software, virtual technician, camera-based collision mitigation system. TSA reminds the industry that cyber threats are present for buses with Wi-Fi.

Illegally Passing Survey:

Not much of a change in the last seven years. 78K motorists illegally passed buses. Only 107K drivers participate in survey nationwide and only 1465 out of approximately 2800 Illinois drivers participated. We need to push entities to participate, each state's results goes on to Washington D.C.

American School Bus Council (ASBC):

Promote safety, resources are available on line, free of copyright and can be found at www.schoolbusfacts.com

EPA-Illinois emissions settlement clearinghouse:

Illinois to receive approximately \$109 million of \$2.9 billion settlement over the next 10 years. School/shuttle/transit buses are one of the 9 Eligible Mitigation Actions

OHIO Association for Pupil Transportation:

They are putting safety reminders on the plastic envelope with new license plates. New license plate 'Flashing Red Stop Ahead' can be purchased for an additional \$20. (\$10 goes to the state and \$10 goes to OAPT to support the transportation programs, provide training, etc.). Might be a good program to have here in Illinois to generate additional funds for PSA / or training videos.

Homeless students:

1.2 million students were identified as homeless in the US during 2014-15. They are eligible for transportation for the duration of the homelessness or until end of the school year in which they obtain housing. This is a change; make sure your transportation directors are aware.

ATHLETIC AND FIELD TRIPS – CHARLIE SEMPLE

Charlie stated he believes shoulder belts would have helped prevent some of the injuries in the Teutopolis bus accident last spring. The Board discussed some safety precautions following this particular incident. Bus driver (or sponsor) have roster of who should and is actually on the bus. Roll-call when leaving to game/event from school and to school. Possibly text a picture of the roster and send to the Athletic Director. Cory Ray mentioned tempered glass was brought up at one of his meetings. An after-hours statewide call list could be developed for contacts like transportation directors or mechanics to be used by drivers who are out of there district and need any assistance.

IDOT – CATHY ALLEN

Seat belt cutters could possibly become mandatory. (How many per bus/cost?).

Illinois School Bus Constitution Rules – if bus over 28 feet then have to have a second stop arm panel.

Discussion of installing a battery cut-off switch as a fire safety when an accident occurs.

8 ways flashers – possible discussion on over-ride on the sequence. IDOTs wording of the law, but Board feels unsafe. Also being discussed is changing the window opening stop requirement on windows. (6") Possible option to allow placement of route ID marker on driver's side also.

SOS UPDATES – KEVIN DUESTERHAUS

MFSABs have never been allowed for testing; testing is always done on a yellow school bus.
Proof of legal residency has been issue when getting CLP, just bring proper ID with you when renewing.
Examples: birth certificate, passport with raised seal – no photocopies.
Additions to the pre-trip skills will be discussed at next meeting, but there are 40 more items.
Central-issuance driver's license/REAL ID to be active January 2019.
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) – February 2020 begins new minimum training requirements for entry-level commercial drivers.
National Registry II – Should be out by 7-1-2018. (Electronic filing/medical card).
SOS sent out 1200 last month regarding errors.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT – MIKE STIER

Motion to adjourn was made by Mark Morten and seconded by Bill Beck. Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm. Next IPTAC meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2018.