

## Accountability Topic: Transportation

**Date of Board Meeting:**

June 15, 2023

**Strategic Priority:**

- High Quality Teaching and Learning
- Engagement of All Students, Families, and Communities
- Effective Policy and Procedures
- Healthy, Sustainable Physical & Social Environments

**Quality Indicator(s)** (if applicable):

- QI 1.2 Ensuring regular actions are taken to ensure busses and facilities are safe and healthy.
- QI 5.1 Quality recruitment, orientation, staff development, disciplinary, evaluation and supervisor processes are developed and effectively implemented.
- QI 6.2 Demonstrating knowledge of and respect for the role of the Board in policy processes.
- QI 7.2 Keeping the Board informed about Division operations, challenges, and celebrations.

**Key Measures:**

- The Good Spirit School Division 2022-23 Strategic Plan

**Targets:**

- Minimize ride times.
- Collaborate with HR and other divisions to improve recruitment strategies.
- Analyze fuel usage to minimize costs.

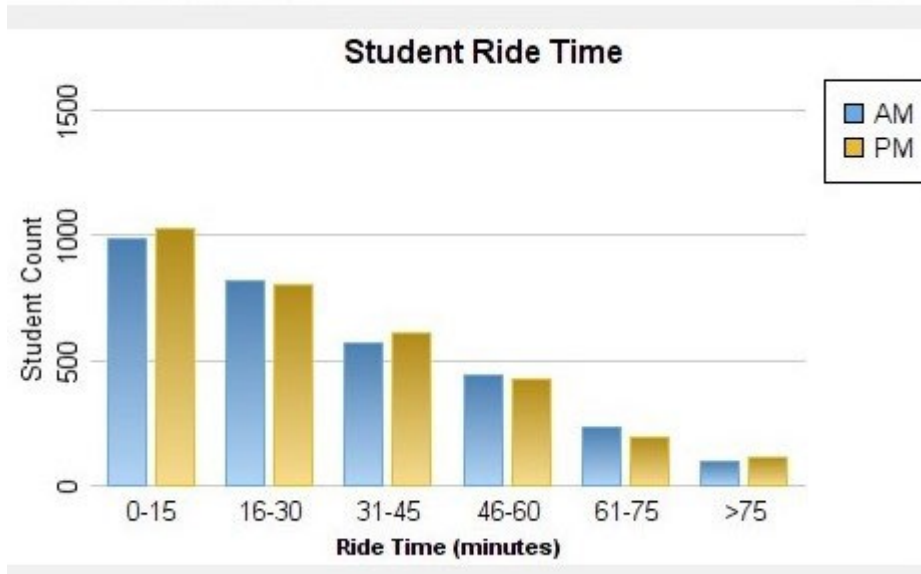
**Data:**

- Route cancellations

Month	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Totals	Totals (Previous Year)
<b>Mechanical</b>	1	2.5	4.5	12	6	7.5	6	0	2	41.5	51
<b>Weather</b>	0	29.5	52	129.5	45.5	37.5	0	122	0	416	757
<b>Medical</b>	28	15	18.5	11	12	8	9.5	7.5	16	125.5	149.5
<b>Personal</b>	3	6	2.	2.5	1.5	4	4	1	1.5	25.5	16
<b>Other</b>	5.5	2	5.5	1	3.5	5	3	0	2.5	28	193.5

- There was one division-wide cancellation on December 6 for rural buses only.
- Ride stats
  - 2779 GSSD students, 208 CTT students for a total of 2987 students transported
  - 20,441 daily km
  - Longest ride time – bus driver’s child – 150 minutes

- Longest ride time – non-bus driver’s child – 112 minutes
- Average ride time is 30 minutes



- GSSD received nine new Thomas buses in December and has ordered ten more from Warner Industries, expected to arrive in early July.
- GSSD purchased one new truck for the facilities technicians in January, which was then outfitted with similar tool and ladder mounting options as previous units.
- GSSD purchased a tractor from Maple Ag and Outdoor in December to replace the outdated unit at Melville Comprehensive School. The unit previously used at MCS was taken to the Good Spirit Education Complex, where it has assisted in snow removal, as well as general yard and road maintenance. It is taken to other schools for small projects, when needed.

**Key Strategies Employed:**

- Collaboration between HR, Payroll, and Transportation on a trial to have Educational Assistants obtain their S-endorsement to drive school bus. Upon successful completion of the process, the EA would receive a monetary bonus.
- Continue to build relationships between bus drivers, administrators, and families.
- Modified tender documents to better specify what is needed in the fleet renewal plan.
- BusPlanner Web has been implemented as the school locator and transportation eligibility tool. This will replace the pricey Baragar software.
- Discussion with bus drivers and local government officials regarding road conditions related to weather during the 2022-23 school year.
- Bus drivers completed first aid training in January.
- New Mitchell software has been introduced to allow for improved documentation and inventory control.
- GSSD has complied with SGI’s implementation of an electronic safety inspection process.

**Future Strategies:**

- Fully implement BusPlanner Workflow to allow the schools to utilize an electronic method for charter bus requests.
- Analysis will be done regarding AP 559 - School Closure or Inclement Weather and Student Transportation. A survey has been sent to students and staff. During the 2023-24 school year, the weather events and cancellations will be examined to determine if changes are needed to the current Administrative Procedure.
- Develop a five-year fleet renewal plan.

**Risk Assessment: Five-Year Fleet Renewal Plan**

<b>Impact Categories</b>	<b>Insignificant</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Catastrophic</b>
<b>Financial</b>	Financial impact of the event is less than \$50,000	Financial impact of the event exceeds \$50,000, but less than \$150,000	Financial impact of the event exceeds \$150,000, but is less than \$250,000	Financial impact of event exceeds \$250,000, but is less than \$500,000	Financial impact of the event exceeds \$500,000
<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>	Ensure all policies are adhered to. Adjust the plan as needed.				
<b>Reputational</b>	One negative article in a publication	Negative articles in more than one publication	Short term negative media focus and concerns raised by stakeholders	Long term negative media focus and sustained concerns raised by stakeholders	Stakeholders lose faith in management or Trustees
<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>					
<b>Managerial Effort/Capacity</b>	Impact can be absorbed through normal activity	Some management effort is required to manage the impact	Can be managed under normal circumstances with moderate effort	With significant management effort, can be endured	Potential to lead to the collapse of the organization
<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>	The development and maintenance of the plan will require effort, but the impact will ensure the fleet is optimized and funds are used appropriately.				
<b>Government Relations</b>	Routine ministerial inquires	In-depth ministerial inquires	Concerns raised by Ministry of Education	School division's ability mandate is questioned	Ministry of Education loses faith in the organization
<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>					
<b>Legal</b>	Legal action threatened	Civil action commenced/small fine assessed	Criminal action threatened/moderate fine assessed	Criminal lawsuit commenced/significant fine assessed	Jail term of any length for a Trustee/Director; multiple significant fines assessed
<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>					
<b>Student Outcomes</b>	Immaterial impact on student achievement	Student achievement metrics begin to show a decline	Parental complaints submitted related to student achievement	Overall student competency levels are below standards	Inability to satisfactorily deliver curriculum or key programs

<b>Comments &amp; Mitigation Strategy</b>	
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<b>Likelihood</b> The likelihood of identified risks is to be assessed by estimate the probability of the risk occurring during the planning horizon.				
<b>Rare</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Likely</b>	<b>Almost Certain</b>
Extremely rare in the sector. Once in more than 10 years at the school division.	Has occurred occasionally in the sector. Once in 5 to 10 years at the school division.	Periodic occurrence in the sector; possible occurrence. Once in 3 years at the school division.	Has occurred previously and could reasonably occur again. Once in 1 to 2 years at the school division.	Extremely likely to occur. Multiple times per year at the school division.

**Summary Comments:**

- Year-over-year, GSSD ridership has increased by 75 students. GSSD has ensured efficiency, transporting the extra students, while also decreasing ride times by one minute when comparing to the previous year. A greater number of available spare drivers, combined with more favourable weather conditions, has resulted in fewer cancellations over the course of this school year.

**Recommended Decision/Motion:**

“That the Board approve the accountability report on Transportation and acknowledge the report met the requirements of QIs 1.2, 5.1, 6.2, and 7.2, based on the evidence within the report.”

Respectfully submitted,

Quintin M. Robertson, Director/CEO  
Good Spirit School Division