

6/21/18

Transportation Board Discussion Item:

Districtwide ridership:

- 249 paid riders (\$198 round trip)
- 84 Special Day Class (SDC)
- 73 free riders

Facts around district provided transportation:

- Our Administrative Regulation 3541 as updated stipulates that "students **may** be eligible for transportation services to and from school if the distance between their school-established bus stop and the school is beyond 1.25 miles for elementary school students and 2 miles for middle school students.
- The funds provided for transportation do not cover the costs. The contribution has been flat for the last several years and the costs for salary, benefits and fuel have increased.
- We are only required to transport students whose IEP indicates they need transportation as part of their provision of a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Cambrian, Union, Los Gatos, Saratoga and next year Oak Grove do not provide any transportation for General Education students. Moreland provides limited transportation and charges \$390 for round trip.

Challenge for next school year:

- After examining all routes and viable solutions, it has been determined that we do not have sufficient busses to transport our legally required students and continue to transport all of our general education students.
- Because 5th grade will be at the elementary site – we need additional transportation for Forest Hill students (these students historically went to RHMS for 5th grade)
- Specifically, there are about 50 students who have been transported from 4 stops for Marshall Lane (2 near the YMCA, which is less than 1 mile and 2 near Jack Fisher park, which is 1.3 miles).

Factors Considered:

- Later start time for Marshall Lane – this would require over an hour later start time for the school.
- Continue 5th grade M/S program at RHMS – illegal as there are no appropriate mainstreaming opportunities.
- Purchase another bus – cost would be approximately \$270K and we have experienced challenges hiring bus drivers.

m/s = mod/
severe

It is the recommendation that we eliminate the Marshall Lane bus for next year to accommodate our legally required transportation needs. Conduct a feasibility study into our transportation costs and seek other potential cost savings strategies.