

Transportation Advisory Committee—September 8, 2008

Observations of the Current Reality

Cubs

- Map of other districts-compared to similar enrollment, what are they doing there? What is the same and different?
- Parental reimbursement-paid to parochial students (flow through)
- Snack provisions- use lunch account
- Are old buses kept in the fleet? Kept for parts?
- What about contracting fuel? 11,000 gals last 25 driving days
- Is there a way to decrease number of bus stops in Prairie Heights neighborhood? Could decrease time also- route efficiency?
- Utilize before/after school time/money in a more efficient way
- Staggered times already exist for Heights

Bob

- Just because it is organized and a good system it doesn't make it ok
- High School kids speeding
- Pretty organized
- Some had to walk further
- Organized getting too buses
- Buses lined up and getting out was organized
- Need general rules to assure behavior control
- Need consistency of bus driver expectations and behavior of the bus driver
- Really liked the idea of having families in double routes chose late bus or early bus
- Little ones were more diligent about getting on the bus
- Concerned with how system works during bad weather
- Organized chaos-the kids know the routine, but there are kids who deviate
- Not enough adult supervision-very concerned about kids safety or accountability
- Didn't see too many people with walkie talkies
- 3 minutes for all 35 buses to get out- wasn't a backup of traffic on 76th
- It's amazing how no one gets lost
- Better to have kids warehoused then having the kids home alone
- What took the longest was kids from Ridge and Middle School
- Most traffic already gone before buses hit 76th
- Cross Country event prevented buses from going to any building so saw kids gather at buildings and then walk over to loading zone
- Talked to some kids and they don't mind late bus
- Saw some pushing and shoving
- Late bus left at 4:15
- Organized chaos-systematic
- Kids were all inside, put a rope up so kids wouldn't get too close to bus
- Felt a lot of tension, small area
- Felt bad for paras- they had to be hard nosed to keep order
- Warehousing of kids
- 6 kids left after buses left and were waiting for rides

VCR

- Elementary buildings organized chaos
- Making the best of what they have
- Morning calm-----more overwhelming
- PM-organized –loud
- Activities, games, supplies available
- Supervision ratios
- Waiting/sitting time in PM
- School designs at Ridge had space capabilities –Crest and View is more confined
- Safety issues in bus loading AM/PM can be overwhelming
- Energy release during in climate weather
- Longer wait with new school
- Last time in 2001, Brain Research was brought in. Do we have access to that?
- What about the buses in the pen during loading times that aren't in use? Why?
- How does wait time change with new school in AM/PM?

Orange

- Current system ran smooth -not sustainable with addition of new Middle School
- Observations/thoughts- not kid friendly (warehousing)

Randy

- Impressed with organization in loading zone, early morning bus-student activities, comfortable and kids know what to do and where to go
- Impressed with afternoon loading –organized chaos
- Good supervision in loading zone
- Bus drivers know their kids so nobody gets left
- View, Crest, Heights- parents drop kids off early
- Middle School after school- organized/play outside/homework
- Ridge- Impressed- organized chaos
- Other land for bus loading
- Use of City buses
- Walking distance from Middle School and Ridge to loading zone (mostly bad weather)
- Late bus supervision- tired/long day- staff training

1927

- Buses not following designated drop off routes
- Crest bottleneck from daycare (ECC) drop off and parent drop off traffic
- Abuse of early/late drop off by parents
- Some kids are on the bus too long 45 minutes to 1 hour
- Saw kids engaged at View- buses were orderly
- Weather slowed down buses with extra stops
- Late bus more behavior issues

Aces

- Organized chaos loading zone
- Warehousing(maybe)
- Unsafe
- Long day for kids and staff
- Long walks- bad weather
- Inefficient- wasted time waiting for drop off