



## ***Lompoc Unified School District Home to School Transportation Plan***

### **Background**

In 2013-14, with the enactment of the Local Control Funding Formula ("LCFF"), State funding for Home to School ("HTS") transportation was established at a fixed amount, in perpetuity, based on the amount of funding each school district received in 2012-13 for both General Education and Special Education transportation. This was accomplished by providing an "add-on" ("Transportation Add-On") to the resulting LCFF funding after all other factors, including COLA, were applied to the formula. Consequently, the Transportation Add-On remains fixed, with the Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD) amount set at \$767,124.

Before 2013-14, the amount of funding provided by the State for HTS transportation was insufficient to cover the actual costs. Consequently, most school districts were forced to contribute other unrestricted general fund dollars to the program ("District Contribution to HTS Transportation"). Because the Transportation Add-On did not increase each year, the District Contribution to HTS Transportation grew over time as costs escalated. For 2021-22, LUSD costs for General Education and Special Education transportation were \$2,102,042 producing a District Contribution to HTS Transportation from the unrestricted general fund equal to \$1,166,392.

Due to advocacy efforts by several state-wide organizations representing school district Governing Boards and Administrators, for the first time in more than ten years, the 2022-23 enacted State Budget included additional funding for HTS Transportation of \$637 million. The funding now allows school districts to receive the greater of the current Transportation Add-On augmented for COLA or 60% of reported transportation costs. This change will enable LUSD to receive funding of approximately \$1,200,000 instead of \$767,124 per year.

### **Current Transportation Services**

The District currently owns 38 school buses: 23 large buses (60 or more passengers) and 15 small buses (25 or fewer passengers). In addition, the District Owns five (5) ten (10) passenger vans that traveled over 56,000 miles in the 2021-2022 school year.

The District operates 18 routes, 7 for General Education students and 11 for Special Education students, serviced by 18 bus drivers, two van drivers, and eleven bus attendants. The District, on average, transports students on 358 field trips and 279 athletic events each year.

For 2022-23, the District is transporting 414 General Education students, 361 Special Education students, and 65 students to outside entities. The District currently provides transportation for General Education students residing within school



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boundaries but outside 1 mile from their school. Transportation for Special Education students is provided for those receiving services at a school other than their school of residence or because of the severity of their disability, as specified in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The District provides reimbursement to parents monthly who opt to transport their child(ren) receiving Special Education services to and from school for the total miles driven at the standard mileage rate established by the Internal Revenue Service.

### **Priority for TK-6 and Low-Income Students**

The District will prioritize the transporting of General Education students in Grades TK through 6 and low-income students by doing the following:

- Establish non-service zones (“Non-Service Zone”) within the following radius distances from each school. Students must reside outside the Non-Service Zone for their home school (school of residence = school of attendance) to receive transportation: TK – 6 = .75 miles
- Grades 7-8 = .75 miles, as space allows
- The Governing Board may make exceptions to the Non-Service Zones based on special circumstances
- Establish bus stops at designated locations using criteria established by the California Highway Patrol and consistent with recognizing each school's Non-Service Zone.
- Determine the maximum capacity of bus routes (“Route Maximum Capacity”)
- Assign students to routes in the following order until the Route's Maximum Capacity is reached:
  - Students residing in households with an income level at or below the “low-income” threshold
  - Students in grades TK-6 residing in households with an income level above the “low income” threshold
  - Students in grades 7-8 residing in households with an income level above the “low income” threshold

### **Accessibility for Students with Disabilities and Homeless Youth**

Students with disabilities will continue to be provided transportation services when specified in their IEP, following the current process. This process involves determining whether a student requires transportation, either because of the severity of their disability or because they must attend a school other than their school of residence to receive the services they need, and then what level of service they require, either station-to-station or curb-to-curb. Station-to-station is



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the default level of service in which pickup and drop-off are provided at the student's school of residence or other centralized location determined by the District.

Curb-to-curb service, whereby the student is picked up and dropped off at the safest location closest to their home, is only provided for students with severe physical disabilities or delays in social, emotional, or cognitive development such that they cannot independently navigate even the minimal distances required for station-to-station transportation. Parents of students qualifying for station-to-station or curb-to-curb service can opt to receive reimbursement for all miles driven in lieu of taking District provided transportation, at the IRS-determined rate, to transport their student to and from their school of attendance in their personal vehicle.

Students designated as homeless are identified, monitored, and serviced by the Student Services department. Student Services will work with the family to ensure homeless students are transported to and from school. This can be accomplished by providing a free bus pass for the students to use the public bus system or by working with the Transportation Department to provide district transportation on existing bus routes.

**Free Transportation for Unduplicated Pupils**

Students receiving either General Education or Special Education transportation services, including Unduplicated Pupils, students who are low socio-economic, English learners, or foster youth, will receive district transportation service at no charge.

**Stakeholder Consultation**

Under Education Code 39800.1, the District seeks input from the stakeholder groups below. Any changes to the Home-to-School Transportation Plan, including those resulting from stakeholder input, shall be approved by the Board of Education.

| <b>Group</b>                | <b>Method</b> | <b>Dates</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Classified Staff            | Online survey | April 2023   |
| Administrative Staff        | Online survey | April 2023   |
| City of Lompoc Transit      | Email         | April 2023   |
| Local Air Pollution Control | Email         | April 2023   |
| Parents                     | Online survey | April 2023   |
| Students                    | Online survey | April 2023   |



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**Revenue Calculations**

The Transportation Plan and below-listed revenue calculations were developed in accordance with Education Code Sections 39800.1 and 41850.1.

**2022/2023**

|   |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| <b>Revenue Calculation</b>                                  |  |                     |
| Total 2021-22 Transportation Expenses (Function 3600)       |  | 2,141,691.45        |
| Less Capital Outlay (object 6XXX, Function 3600)            |  | 307,670.26          |
| Less Nonagency Expenditures (Goal 7110,7150, Function 3600) |  | -                   |
| Estimated 60% Reimbursement                                 |  | 1,100,412.71        |
| Less 2021-22 Transportation add-on (from LCFF Calculator)   |  | 767,124.00          |
| <b>Total Revenue (Object 8590, Resource 0000)</b>           |  | <b>333,288.71</b>   |
| <b>Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>                |  |                     |
| 2000-2999 - Classified Salaries                             |  | 1,267,884.24        |
| 3000-3999 - Employee Benefits                               |  | 592,466.55          |
| 4000-4999 - Books and Supplies                              |  | 317,300.00          |
| 5000-5999 - Services and other Operating Expenditures       |  | (29,827.77)         |
| 6000-6999 - Capital Outlay                                  |  | -                   |
| 7000-7999 - Other Outgo                                     |  | -                   |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>                                   |  | <b>2,147,823.02</b> |

**2023/2024**

|   |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| <b>Revenue Calculation</b>  |  |                     |
| Total 2022-23 Projected Transportation Expenses (Function 3600)     |  | 2,147,823.02        |
| Less Capital Outlay (object 6XXX, Function 3600)                    |  | -                   |
| Less Nonagency Expenditures (Goal 7110,7150, Function 3600)         |  | -                   |
| Estimated 60% Reimbursement   |  | 1,288,693.81        |
| Less 2022-23 Projected Transportation add-on (from LCFF Calculator) |  | 767,124.00          |
| <b>Total Revenue (Object 8590, Resource 0000)</b>                   |  | <b>521,569.81</b>   |
| <b>Expenditures and Other Financing Uses (2022-23 Estimate)</b>     |  |                     |
| 2000-2999 - Classified Salaries                                     |  | 1,280,563.08        |
| 3000-3999 - Employee Benefits                                       |  | 643,889.00          |
| 4000-4999 - Books and Supplies                                      |  | 317,300.00          |
| 5000-5999 - Services and other Operating Expenditures               |  | (29,827.77)         |
| 6000-6999 - Capital Outlay  |  | -                   |
| 7000-7999 - Other Outgo   |  | -                   |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>   |  | <b>2,211,924.31</b> |