



# HTST PLAN UPDATE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



Presented By:

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Christina Celeste-Russo, Director of Transportation

January 24, 2024



# AGENDA

- Background and History of Transportation Funding
- Grant Information and Requirements
- Data and Financial Information
- District Efforts to Secure External Funding
- Next Steps



# HISTORY OF HOME-TO-SCHOOL STATE FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION

- CASTO and the School Transportation Coalition (CASTO's lobbyist) have worked hard to protect and to increase pupil transportation funding.
- 2007 - The State Auditor's report identified the poor funding for school transportation.
- 2014 - The Legislative Analyst's Office conducted a study and report. Their recommendation was for 50% funding.
- 2013-14 and 2014-15 - The State Legislature worked and attempted to increase school transportation funding.
- 2015 - The State Legislature universally supported legislation to reinstate transportation data collection, but Governor Brown vetoed.
- The original SB 878, which had CSEA and the education coalition's support, never passed in any form.



# HISTORICTURN OF EVENTS

- State Budget Act of 2022-23 provided \$637 million ongoing for Prop 98 General Fund, specifically tagged for Home-to-School Transportation
- Program funding will enhance Local Education Agencies (LEAs) up to 60% of their transportation costs plus ongoing Cost of Living Adjustments
  - Calculations are based on prior year operational costs, but excludes capital outlay expenditures



# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PLAN REQUIREMENTS

## California Education Code Section 39800.1

- i. Plan must describe services that will be offered.
- ii. Districts are required to create a plan for how home-to-school services will be applied that prioritizes low income and students in grades TK-6.
- iii. Plan must report specific data on the impact of home-to-school services.
- iv. Plan must describe how transportation will be accessible to disabled and homeless students.
- v. Plan must describe how unduplicated students may access free transportation.
- vi. Plan must be developed in consultation with specific stakeholders.
- vii. OUSD may partner with local municipally owned transit systems to transport middle and high school students.
- viii. Plan must be adopted by the Board of Education on or before April 1, 2023 and updated by April 1st every year, thereafter.



# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOCUS & PRIORITIES

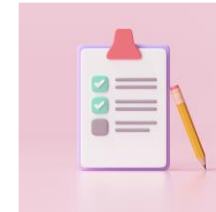


**Low-income & pupils in grades TK-6**



**Unduplicated pupils\***

English Learners  
McKinney-Vento  
Foster Youth



**\*Plan must describe how they can access free transportation.**



# PUPIL TRANSPORTATION SCOPE OF SERVICES OFFERED

1. Students shall be eligible for transportation service to and from school if the distance between their home and home school is beyond the minimum listed below:
  - Elementary school students: one (1) mile.
  - Middle school students: two and one half (2 ½) miles.
  - High school students: three (3) miles.
2. Transitional Kindergarten students will be eligible for transportation services to and from school following
  - Elementary school students: one (1) mile.
3. Open Enrollment (Approved Attendance Permit)
4. Parent Transportation
5. Safe Walking Path to School

Scope of services offered in this presentation are specific to General Education Students - Unduplicated Pupil Percentages (UPP).



# Stakeholder Consultation

Over \*\*\*\*  
Survey  
Responses

Students

Parents

Employees (Teachers, Classified and Leadership)

Pending dates to send out surveys

DAC Meeting

January 24, 2024

Consultation  
with CSEA

In-person meeting on January 31, 2024

Regional Local  
Transit Authority  
(OCTA)

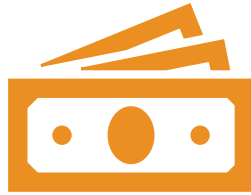
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Local Air Quality  
Management  
District  
(SCAQMD)

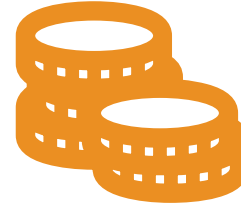
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# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION AB 181 FUNDING



\$ 3.89 million\*  
FY 22-23



\*Based on 2021-22  
Spending Level



What was accomplished  
with all this funding?



# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUCCESS STORY!

## Transportation Department Reorganization

### Transportation Reorganization Highlights

#### SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS!

New Work Calendar: 10 months

New Daily Guarantee: 7 hours

#### MONETARY BENEFITS

Previously: \$26,540 - \$34,000

Recommended: \$33,916 - \$43,449

★ 27.8% increase!

\$7,376 to \$9,449 annually

#### NEW POSITIONS!

5 Lead School Bus Drivers  
(12 MONTH/8 HOURS - RANGE 40)

1 Additional 12 month driver

#### SCHOOL BUS DRIVER INSTRUCTORS!

#### VACANT POSITION CHANGES

Change Salary Placement for 3 positions:

Range 37 to Range 44

★ 16% increase!

#### NEW POSITION!

1 Lead School Bus Driver/Instructor  
(12 MONTH/8 HOURS - RANGE 48)

### Transportation Reorganization VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Close 1 Heavy Duty  
Mechanic Position

#### ★ NEW POSITION!

1 Lead Multi-Fleet Technician  
(12 MONTH/8 HOURS - RANGE 48)

VEHICLE  
MAINTENANCE  
FOREMAN!

#### POSITION CHANGE

Change Salary Placement:  
Range 47 to Range 52



### Transportation Reorganization LEADERSHIP

#### ★ NEW POSITION!

Transportation Field Supervisor  
8 HOUR/12 MONTH  
RANGE 45

#### ★ RESTORE POSITION

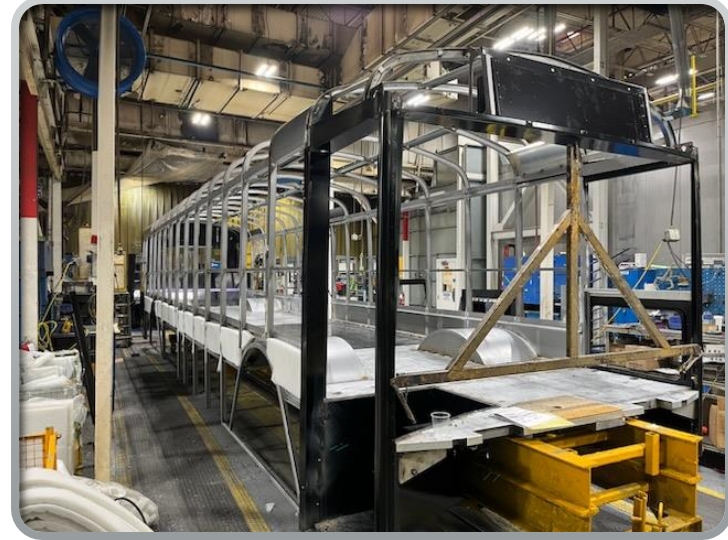
Transportation Manager  
8 HOUR/12 MONTH  
RANGE 68

Close 1 Transportation  
Supervisor Position





# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUCCESS STORY!



**Purchase of 8 Charter-Style  
CNG School Buses**



**Expected to arrive Spring-Summer 2024**



# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUCCESS STORY!

transfinder

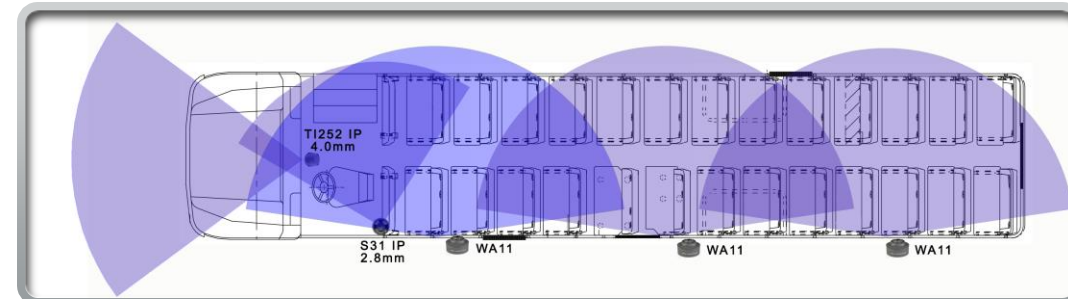
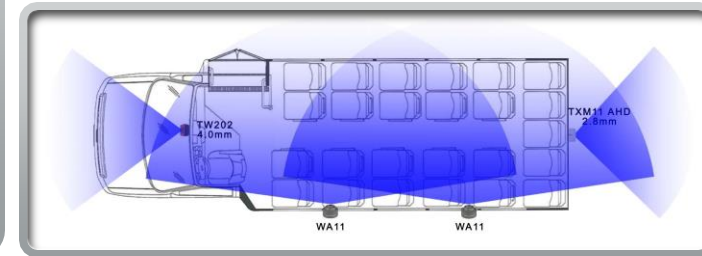


Currently in the Implementation Process



# HOME-TO-SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUCCESS STORY!

**GATEKEEPER**  
PROTECTING PEOPLE IN TRANSIT



Pending delivery for camera systems & install



# IMPACT TO DISTRICT FUNDING

Budgeted 23-24 Expenditures: \$17.31 million

Revenue: \$ 2.40 million

Deficit: \$14.52 million

AB 181 Funding: \$ 4.11 million\*

\*Based on 2023-2024 Spending Level



## Transportation Department Goals

(Survey Date Pending)

# STAKEHOLDER INPUT



Cover additional fuel  
costs  
(Gasoline/Diesel/CNG/  
Electric)



Garage equipment and  
supplies



Increase staffing  
and/or driver work  
hours



Offset operational  
costs that would  
otherwise be funded  
out of the classroom  
funds



Replace older buses



Vehicle maintenance



## TRANSPORTATION HIGHLIGHTS! 2020 - 2024

**\$2,800,000 Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Fund** - Awarded 7 EV school buses in July 2020

**\$800,000 South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and Hybrid Vehicle Incentive Program (HVIP)** - Awarded 2 EV school buses in September 2022

**\$1,260,000 HVIP** - Awarded 6 EV school bus vouchers for 50% funding in July 2021

**\$700,000 value SCE Charge Ready Transport (CRT)** - program installed the EV school bus infrastructure in February 2022

**\$910,000 SCAQMD Carl Moyer Grant** to expand/upgrade the CNG infrastructure – Awarded January 2021

**\$40,000 SCAQMD grant to replace CNG fuel tanks** – Awarded November 2022

**\$3,170,000 HVIP** – Awarded an additional 16 EV school bus vouchers for 50% funding in February 2023

**Pending Grants** – working with SCE Charge Ready Transport (CRT) for 2<sup>nd</sup> phase EV infrastructure and applying for EPA 2023 Clean School Bus Grant Program.

# TOTAL - \$9,680,000 and counting...



# NEXT STEPS

1. Present updates to the Governing Board on March 11, 2024
2. Plan Elements:
  - Augmentations of Current Operational Costs
  - Replacement Schedule for Buses and Equipment
  - Additional Services for Students
  - Revisit Bus Fee Schedules
3. Update Board Policies and Administrative Regulations



**WE ARE  
OUSD**



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?