



Transportation Activities for May 2024

- * We continue to have openings for school bus drivers, and bus attendants.
- * Interviews for the open mechanic position will be on June 12 so hopefully that will be filled soon.
- * May was a whirlwind of activities in the transportation department. Our drivers covered routes and transported students to many different locations. Between the high school and middle school there were 28 athletic trips concluding their spring season. In addition to that, there were 43 field trips and 14 trips for 8th grade, senior walk, and Project Graduation. Bringing the total trips out to 85, when drivers were tired by the end of the month and ready for a well deserved summer break.
- * Upon returning after Memorial Day we met with and hired our summer bus cleaning crew. We had 5 cleaners who wanted to return from last year and had 10 new applicants apply for this year. This is the most we have EVER had apply to clean buses.



- * We were able to have most of the transportation department join in a final day of the school year BBQ and service awards lunch on the last day of school. It was a great gathering with many thanks, appreciation of the dedication and quite a few tears.

* Earlier in May we celebrated the retirement of our district employees with a dinner. We have 4 retiring from our department this year. We wish them all the best in their well deserved retirements!

* **Steve Newcomer - Lead Technician:**

Steve joined our team 10 years ago. He has over 26 years of experience working on school buses. He has overseen the safety of our fleet during that time. He has attended training yearly and kept up to date on what the changes are and insures all of our state records are updated as needed. He is very knowledgeable and takes pride in his work and the condition of our fleet. He has been essential in many decisions that I have made as a supervisor. He is honest, trustworthy, and always wants to do what is best for our fleet and our team. He has even filled in driving bus when we have been shorthanded. Steve plans on spending a lot of time with his wife Kathy, his children and grandchildren once he is retired.

* **Robin Borg- Senior Bus Driver:**

Robin joined our team 23 yrs. ago. She has over 33 years of experience driving school buses and is one of our senior drivers. She runs a route that logs over 120 miles a day and has traveled over 400,000 miles driving a school bus. She is one of our activity trip drivers and is always highly requested. She runs a route that logs over 120 miles a day and has traveled over 400,000 miles driving a school bus. She is one of our activity trip drivers and is always highly requested. Robin has a great driving record and is very dependable. This last year she has also helped cover the office during lunch time. She has one of the cleanest buses in the fleet, regardless of the season. She had led the summer bus cleaning crew for many years and still comes in to train our new crews to learn the ropes. Robin has a warm and friendly personality. She is fair and compassionate with all and is a friend to all. She cares for all her students and they love her as well. Robin plans on spending more time with her husband Rick and all of her children and grandchildren. She is looking forward to being able to travel to Kansas this fall to watch her granddaughter who is a very competitive wrestler.

* **Lynne Barkley Special Needs Bus Driver:**

Lynne too joined our team 10 years ago. She joined us having never driven a school bus before. She obtained her license and took to the job quickly. She has been very versatile and has had several routes during that time. Lynne has been open to change and has been an essential part of us being able to provide bus service on a daily basis from Emmett to Boise for over a year. She has moved into the special needs bus duties this year and has done a great job. She always has a smile on her face and again is one who is a friend to all. She cares for all her students as if they were her own. Lynne is always willing to help where needed. She has stepped up to cover the office 3 days a week during lunch and even taking few local field trips. Lynne plans on spending more time with her husband Gordon, her children and grandchildren. She is looking forward to traveling more and spending some time on a beach reading a book and enjoying the view.

Shauna Davis Transportation Supervisor:

I have lived in Gem County most of my life. I grew up and attended school in Sweet for my 1st-4th grade years in the old 2-room school house. As a 5th grader, we went to the Montour school where 5th – 8th attended. In 1975 it was a great day when as a 7th grader we got to move to the new school (the current Sweet-Montour School), I have lots of memories tied to that building.

When I moved to Emmett I met Wade, the love of my life, and I am happy to say that we are still married and will celebrate our 47th anniversary this year. We raised two amazing kids, Stacy and Mike who were born and raised here in Emmett and went from K-12th in the Emmett School system. They now have families of their own, Stacy and Michael have Phoenix and Nova, and Mike and Lacy have Zoey, Shayley, and Scout, they will have a new little one joining them in October. I am very fortunate to have them living just over the hill in Garden City and Middleton so I am able to see them often.

I started with the Emmett School District as an Art Mom at Butte View back when my kids were in elementary school never dreaming of becoming a full-time employee of the district. I was co-coaching my daughter's softball team when I was asked if I wanted to be a bus driver as they were short-handed (some things never change). I was operating my own fitness club and working as the GCRD swimming pool manager at the time. Obviously, I said yes and started as a relief bus driver that spring, went to a full-time route driver the next year, and into the secretary dispatcher the 3rd year and continued there until 2017 when I became the supervisor with the assistance of the best secretary/dispatcher Brandy. When I go out on August 1st, I will have spent 29 ½ years working in the bus shop. Almost half my life.

During my 29 ½ years I continued managing the GCRD swimming pool until it was closed down in 2018. I have done scorebooks and stats books for almost all high school sports throughout the years before and after my kids were there. I think soccer, football, and tennis are the only ones I did not participate in. I have driven from Coeur d'Alene to Disneyland in a school bus or the Huskie bus with sports and honor roll students. I have had the pleasure of meeting a lot of coaches and athletic directors throughout the Treasure Valley and beyond. Watching many athletes develop their skills even winning a few district and state tournaments.

I have been part of the Calendar committee since 1999 and was given the title of Lifer by Tom Carlsen. Being a part of the Insurance and Wellness committees has been eye-opening and rewarding. We have great people working on these committees for the good of all of our staff. Know that they are very diligent and give them your thanks for all they do.

I have seen a lot of changes in the district staffing over the years. I have made life-long friends with many. Thanks to all the wonderful people that I have worked with, you made my years here so memorable. I am looking forward to being able to spend more time with my family, watching my grandkids grow, and enjoying the activities they choose to participate in. I can go camping whenever I want and for as long as I like, taking the grandkids fishing and huckleberry picking, and making a lot more memories with my hubby.

Thank you Emmett School District for the opportunity, it has been a heck of a ride!

Last Report Submitted by: Shauna Davis

