

Buckeye Union School District Transportation Service Plan



Buckeye Union School District

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Transportation Department Staff

Jessica Simon
Director of Transportation
jsimon@buckeyeusd.org

Samantha Gaither
Dispatcher, Bus Driver
sgaither@buckeyeusd.org

Erick Larsen
Driver Instructor/Trainer, Bus Driver
elarsen@buckeyeusd.org

Located between Blue Oak Elementary and Camerado Springs Middle School
2480 Merrychase Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682

(530) 677-5023



Our District

Located in the foothill community of El Dorado County, California, the Buckeye Union School District was established in 1858 and serves over 4,300 achieving students with 240 teacher and administrative staff and an additional 200+ support staff.

The District encompasses approximately 53 square miles in the southwestern portion of El Dorado County, including the residential communities of Shingle Springs, Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills. The District serves a population of approximately 38,300 people and operates five elementary schools, two middle schools and two TK-8th charter schools.

The District prides itself on its educational program, which provides each student with the opportunity for maximum intellectual, social, and physical development. Strong parent and community involvement in the schools' academic excellence of our students, professional development of staff, and the stability of leadership all provide the foundation of success for our students and the community the Buckeye Union School District serves.

District Mission:

Working together with families, the community, and highly-qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize their academic and personal success in a global society.

District Vision:

It is the Vision of the Buckeye Union School District to provide the highest quality educational program for all students, so that they fulfill their innate potential, become lifelong learners, and contribute to society as responsible citizens.

Board of Trustees

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Transportation Plan

Per Education Code (EC) Section 39800.1, as a condition of receiving apportionments for Transportation Services (under EC Section 41850.1), a local educational agency shall develop a plan describing the transportation services. The plan shall be presented and adopted by the governing board of the local educational agency on or before April 1, 2023, and updated by April 1 each year thereafter, in an open meeting with the opportunity for in-person and remote public comment. The plan may provide for the local educational agency to partner with a municipally owned transit system to provide service pursuant to this section to middle school and high school pupils. Nothing in a local educational agency's plan shall preclude a local educational agency from providing no-cost transit passes to students.

Current Transportation Services

The District currently owns 16 large busses (80 or more passengers) In addition, the District owns three (3) seven (7) passenger vans. These vehicles traveled a total of 124,240 miles in the 2024-2025 school year.

The District currently operates a total of 10 routes; 8 for General Education students and 2 for Special Education students serviced by a total of 9 school bus drivers and 1 relief bus driver. Routes have been consolidated due to a lack of drivers. On average Buckeye USD, has a HTS ridership of 720 students per year. We also provide yearly transportation to an average of 182 field trips and 10 sports trips.

Transportation for General Education students is currently provided for students residing in the boundaries of, and attending, Camerado Springs Middle School, Rolling Hills Middle School, Valley View Charter Montessori, William Brooks Elementary, Silva Valley Elementary, Oak Meadow Elementary, Buckeye Union Mandarin Immersion, Blue Oak Elementary, and Buckeye Elementary.

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). These students are currently transported to Rolling Hills Middle School, Buckeye Elementary, and Capitol Elementary (a non-public school). The District provides reimbursement to parents monthly who opt to transport their own 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.

Student Eligibility – Home to School

The Buckeye Union School shall provide safe, efficient and reliable transportation, home to school and to school related field trips for students in all day kindergarten and first to eighth grade, including low income students. Students may be eligible for transportation services if the distance between their home and the school is beyond 1.0 miles for grades TK-8. The Superintendent or designee may authorize transportation within the no bus zone when safety problems or hazards exist.

Student Eligibility – Students with Disabilities

The Buckeye Union School District shall meet the transportation needs of the students with disabilities, home to school and school related field trips. The District shall provide free and appropriate transportation services as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), or Section 504 Accommodation Plan. The student specific needs shall be the primary consideration when an IEP

team is determining the student's transportation needs. Considerations may include, but are not limited to, the student's health needs, travel distances, physical accessibility and safety of streets and sidewalks, accessibility of public transportation systems, midday or other transportation needs, extended-year services, and as necessary, implementation of a Behavioral Intervention Plan. The District shall arrange transportation schedules so that students with disabilities do not spend an excessive amount of time on the bus, compared to other students. Any student whose IEP or Accommodation Plan specifies transportation, and the student is excluded from school bus transportation for any reason, such as suspension, expulsion, or other reason, the District shall provide alternative transportation at no cost to the student or parent(s)/guardian(s). (EC 48915.5) The District shall ensure all students with disabilities may be accompanied on school transportation by a service animal, as defined in 28 CFR 35.104, including a specially trained guide dog, signal dog, or service dog. (EC 39839; Civil Code 54.1-54.2; 28 CFR 35.136)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide transportation to students experiencing homelessness in accordance with law, Board policies, and administrative regulations. The District shall provide transportation for students experiencing homelessness, to and from the student's school of origin when the student is residing within the District and the parent/guardian, or the District liaison in the case of an unaccompanied youth, requests that such transportation be provided. The District will fully inform parent(s)/guardian(s) of students experiencing homelessness and all unaccompanied youth of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, and assist them in accessing transportation to the school of choice. This assistance is including, but not limited to, public transportation passes at no cost to the student or parent(s)/guardian(s).

Student Eligibility – Unduplicated Students

The Director of Transportation will work closely with the necessary departments to ensure that all unduplicated students are receiving transportation at no cost to the student or parent(s)/guardian(s). The Director of Transportation or designee, will conduct semiannual audits on existing routes to improve on scheduling. All qualifying pupils will be notified by letter. Declination of transportation service by parent(s)/guardian(s) may change as the student's needs change and will take place within one to five days of first knowledge.

Within the scope of services offered, and in accordance with law, Board policy and administrative regulation, homeless students and youth in transition, where transportation is a barrier to accessing their educational services, shall be provided transportation on school buses, municipal buses, or through alternative transportation service providers, at no cost to the student.

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:

- Establishes 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:
 - The Governing Board may make exceptions to the Non-Service Zones based on special circumstances
- Current District Non-Service Zones
- TK – 6 = 1.0 mile

- Grades 7-8 = 1.0 mile,
- Establishes bus stops at designated locations using criteria established by the California Highway Patrol and consistent with the recognition of each school’s Non-Service Zone.
- Requires the submission of an application to receive General Education transportation service before the beginning of each school year to include home address, school of attendance, grade level, and household income level.
- Determines the maximum capacity of bus routes (“Route Maximum Capacity”)
- Assigns students to routes in the following order until the Route 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
- Adds any students without a route assignment for which an application was received to a Waiting List to be contacted at a later date should space become available on the route

Stakeholder Input

Transportation Service has been discussed with our stakeholders in the District and presented at a public board meeting. The draft Transportation Service Plan has also been posted prior to approval on the District website for staff, parent and other community member input. The District has also reached out to local transit providers and El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and emailed a copy of the draft Plan for comment to:

Contacts at El Dorado Transit:
 Brian James bjames@eldroadotransit.com

El Dorado County Air Quality Management.
 Rania Serieh rania.serieh@edcgov.us

Transportation Services Allowance Calculations

A. Total 2024-25 Transportation Expenses (Function 3600)	\$1,373,596.51
B. Less Capital Outlay (Object 6xxx, Function 3600)	\$63,394.00
C. Less Nonagency Expenditures (Goal 7110, 7150, Function 3600)	\$--
D. Estimated 60% Reimbursement	\$824,157.91
E. Less 2024-25 Transportation Add-on from LCFF (if >0, the Transportation Allowance shall be zero):	(\$602,645.00)
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE (OBJECT 8590, RESOURCE 0000)	\$221,512.91

Expenditures and other Financing Uses

2000-2999: Classified Salaries	\$751,805.58
3000-3999: Employee Benefits	\$275,881.65
4000-4999: Books and Supplies	\$194,562.75
5000-5999: Services and Other Operating Expenditures	\$87,952.53
6000-6999: Capital Outlay	\$ 63,394.00
7000-7999: Other Outgo	\$--
Total Expenditures	\$1,373,596.51