

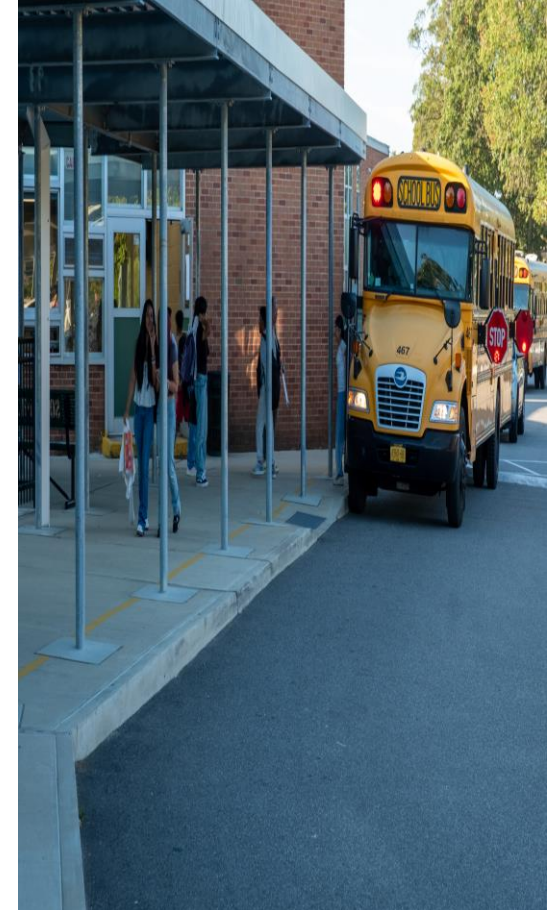
2026-2027  
TRANSPORTATION  
BUDGET  
PRESENTATION

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# TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW

- The district contracts with Suffolk Transportation for all our transportation needs.
- Each day the district runs approximately 109 large buses, 173 minibuses, and 15 wheelchair buses.
- Each day these buses transport approximately 16,676 students to 18 District schools, 22 Private and Parochial schools, and 27 Special needs, UPK schools, and McKinney Vento locations both to and from school.
- In addition to employing a driver for each of the above buses, the district uses over 190 Drivers Assistants(DA).
- That's over 475 people employed directly & indirectly, providing services to the district's residents each school day.
- In addition, the district works with the County contractor Swissport, to ensure timely and reliable transportation for our DSS and Early Intervention families.



# TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- To provide the best ride possible to our high needs population, Drivers Assistants have been trained in Crisis Prevention and Intervention(CPI) strategies and receive biannual training in providing special needs transportation services.
- The bus company has installed AI powered safety cameras on all buses, which observe the drivers throughout the day and alerts them when improvements in their driving habits can be made and provides them with a safety rating, where top scorers are rewarded.
- Three season jackets and safety vests with reflective properties and district logos have been issued to each DA to make sure our staff are easily recognizable to parents, and to ensure their safety while out on the roads. Jacket logos will need to be modified.
- Stop arm cameras have been installed on all district buses, to deter other drivers from passing stopped buses with their red flashers on and the number of violations has been decreasing by approximately 18% each of the last two years.



# TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONT)

- A full time Transportation Coordinator was hired by the district to help deliver exceptional services to our residents.
- A Transportation Hotline, (631) 972-1616, which operates from Aug – Sept, was established at the beginning of this year to help answer general transportation questions, and a phone queue was implemented on the main line.
- The Babysitter deadline was moved up to June 1, of each year which should help with late/last minute requests. Private/Parochial apps are still due April 1, of each year.
- The Board of Education requested School Safety Zone studies be conducted this year due to residential safety concerns over certain walker routes.



# TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONT)

- Four new electric buses were added to the fleet this year, there are now a total of seven electric buses in the fleet.
- A new Drivers Assistant work study program was implemented as part of the Graduation Plus initiative in conjunction with the Department of Labor, organized by Karen Gross.
- Earlier bus pass distribution to residents - it should be noted due to numerous last-minute changes, the earlier we distribute bus passes, the more bus passes there are that will need to be modified, once school starts.
- Where's The Bus software has been made available to all district residents so they can always track their children's bus.



# SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION

- Suffolk Transportation is an exceptional partner with the district, in addition to operating most all the district's buses they also provide many value added services to the district such as, free school supplies to residents(Stuff-A-Bus), free field trips, Where's the Bus App, and are actively upgrading their fleet to Electric buses.
- To access Where's The Bus go to [Wheresthebus.com](http://Wheresthebus.com) on any internet enabled device or get the app for your phone.



# TRANSPORTATION BUDGET

- This year the Transportation budget totaled 38,980,209.
- Next year, I am proposing a Transportation Budget of 42,494,843.
- This is a 9.01% increase, due to a budgeted CPI increase of 5% for contracted transportation, as well as a proposed increase in the number of large buses needed due to establishing school safety zones.
- None of this would be possible without the support of the Board of Education, District Administration, and most importantly the Community.



# TRANSPORTATION 2026-27

- Questions?