



West County Transportation Agency Update

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For: Santa Rosa City Schools

Summer School/ESY Routes 2023

- 78 Routes, (57 SPED, 16 Gen Ed, 5 Field Trips)
- 625 SPED students for 2023 ESY, (record high SPED student count)
- 2022 ESY was 511 students and 78 bus routes.

Special thanks Michael Reimer for his efforts in making the ESY programming successful and gratitude to SRCS Staff for their support, communication, and flexibility.

Routes and Staffing

RT Type	2023 - 2024		2022 - 2023	
	# Routes	Uncovered	# Routes	Uncovered
SPED Ambulatory	47	10	46	12
SPED W/C	12	4	13	2
SPED Van	20	0	18	0
Gen Ed	33	2	33	5
<i>Total RT</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>110</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Standby Driver</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Total Et al.</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>26</i>

	# Routes	Uncovered
Net Change From 2022-23	2	-7

Staffing Continued

- 11 Driver Trainees
 - 2 Bus Aides Upgrading to Bus Driver
 - 5 Bus Driver Trainees (Driving Vans/White Buses)
 - 4 Bus Driver Trainees in original classroom training
 - Will be driving Vans/White Buses at completion of classroom training
- 2 Retiree Bus Driver Substitutes

Recruitment

We continue to pursue recruitment of bus drivers through all of the normal activities, but we have seen positive gains above the retirements and natural attrition of employees.

- Increased monetary hiring incentives
- Developed creative “paid” training options
- Year-round training classes
- Offer 10, 11, and 12 month positions
- Modified and improved salary schedule

Actions to Mitigate Driver Shortages

- Uncovered routes will be driven by our standby drivers, subs, and licensed staff members from our Operation Offices
- Reduced time window of availability for field/activity trips
 - Decreases options to schools needing field/activity trips during normal route times
- Contract services for Transition Students
- Transport capable students in 10 passenger vans
- Continued recommendation of bell time changes within the JPA membership
 - Reduce Routes & Offset Driver Shortages
 - Cost Savings
 - Retention
 - Improve Service

Special needs routes change frequently at the start of the year and will likely result in more efficiencies and help reduce ride times for most students as changes occur.

Requests for Assistance and/or Membership Due To Lack of Drivers

- Alexander Valley USD
- St. Helena & Calistoga USD
- Cloverdale USD
- Monte Rio Union
- Napa County Office of Education
- Rincon Valley USD
- Sonoma Academy
- Old Adobe
- Horicon
- Fort Ross

Ridership

- Special Needs
 - 764 School Year 2021-22 and 75 Routes (Post Pandemic, started year at 650)
 - 454 SRCS (started year at 420)
 - 926 – School Year 2022-23 and 77 Routes (started year at 835 students)
 - 535 SRCS (started year at 485)
 - 881 – School Year 2023-24 and 79 Routes (likely to increase 100+ students)
 - 502 SRCS (likely to increase by approximately 50 by end-of-year)
- General Education
 - Currently 739 student have been issued bus passes
 - 2021 – 2022 ridership count was 1,100 students at all schools (post Pandemic)
 - 665 issued bus passes

Routing Challenges

- Overwhelming number of schools that start at the same time, or near the same time
 - AM Bell Time
 - 18 schools starting between 8:00 – 8:10
 - 52 schools starting between 8:15 – 8:30
 - 14 schools starting between 8:35 – 9:00
 - PM Bell Time
 - 9 school ending between 2:00 – 2:15
 - 50 schools ending between 2:20-2:30
 - 17 schools ending between 3:10 – 3:40
- Changes to the secondary level bell times last year and this year due to legal requirements
 - Increased routes
- No changes to the elementary bell schedules
 - Increased routes

The changes or lack of changes in bells times reduced our ability to obtain multiple tiered runs (more buses to transport fewer students) and caused an increase routes in 2022-2023.



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Questions?