Ballston Spa

Transportation Update

Board of Education Meeting

December 6, 2023





How does the shortage impact our District?

- 62 daily bus runs K-12
- Currently we are 3 drivers short of the minimum number needed to cover all daily runs (without having mechanics and office staff drive)
- Currently we have 1 sub driver
- Currently have several drivers in training
- Cancelled and/or delayed bus runs are currently and unfortunate reality

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



In the event a bus run needs to be cancelled or delayed...

- We do our best to rotate which runs are cancelled or delayed
- We send a communication to parents/caregivers as early as possible
 - Phone
 - Email
 - Text message
- We post bus cancellations or delays to our District website
- When possible we will alert parents/caregivers the previous night in an attempt to lessen the burden

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Efforts the District has taken to help solve the current shortage:

- We continue to post job openings through various platforms including:
 - OLAS
 - Facebook
 - Indeed
 - District website
 - Recruitfront (which allows the job postings to remain open/on-going)





Efforts the District has taken to help solve the current shortage:

- We have held two "Drive-A-Bus" recruitment days
- We have increased hours for drivers
- We've created opportunities for drivers to pick up hours in between driving times as building school aides
- We offer a very competitive salary and benefits package:
 - Our starting driver rate is the highest in the region
 - With full benefits



Efforts the District has taken to help solve the current shortage:

- When we experience a shortage, before making the difficult decision to cancel a bus run we exhaust all options:
 - Every attempt is made to find a sub driver
 - Our mechanics and office staff drive
- We are continuously creating routing efficiencies
 - Careful not to extend a student's seat time on the bus
 - Current average ride for a student is approximately 30 minutes

We will continue to exhaust all options and implement creative solutions.

Our goal is to not cancel any runs on any day.

Questions