# Welcome and Introductions: Called to order at 6:30 p.m.

* 1. Committee Members
  2. Visitors – note: special location for visitor tripod since software demonstration is confidential and proprietary.
  3. Media

# Review Charge of the Committee

To study and make recommendations to the Board of Education by January or February based upon the evaluation of routes, bus stops, financial outlook for the district and state, and walk zones for students in the District. We want a plan to address when the state numbers come in as the cuts affect the current year budget. When the elections are done, we should get more from state.

# Review notes from previous meeting

Not a Robert Rule meeting but review minutes for questions or clarifications. Agreed that we need to make a change to section IV.A.2 for individualized education students with bus transportation written into their plan may require door-to-door transportation.

## Presentation of Versa-Tran System

* + 1. Demonstrated potential zones. System can change boundaries. Example included Covington Knolls/Abbey Oaks with 200 River Valley students.
    2. Versa-Tran can take maps, demographics, and suggestions from the committee, then overlay new boundaries to see how cost is impacted by any changes.
    3. Versa-Tran lists all students in the district.
    4. Versa-Tran provides driver directions (e.g. R – L), health issues, and safety.

## Questions/Answers about routing with current system

* + 1. In summer, very little changes are made to enrollment unless new students enroll late.
    2. A consideration is fewer stops for 5th – 6th grades.
    3. Versa-Tran has the potential to optimize routes.

Quick example: expand zone to 1½ miles, ignoring hazard zones and measure the reduction in children to justify eliminating walk students. The Covington example is 3-4 routes that can save $30,000 per bus per year.

* + 1. Currently, our fleet has 71 passenger buses with 2-3 passengers to a seat, reflecting 80% capacity. Plainfield went from a 3-tier to a 2-tier route and saved money on equipment. This district cannot cut equipment without cutting routes. Nevertheless, we do save fuel and mileage. The 3-tier route included a route to Catholic and Old Quarry schools, then a route to Central/River Valley, and the 3rd route to Oakwood. The change to 2-tier shift added Oakwood to the Central/River Valley bus. Drivers took a 15-minute reduction in wages. In the past, the district drove the kindergarten children all over the district. In addition, the district ran specific routes for parochial school which was illegal and not reimbursed, moving ridership to 80%

1. **Review of previous recommendations**

Jackie Hardee made improvements to routes that existed 3 years ago and she anticipated issues.

* 1. **Recommendations from previous Transportation Committee**
     1. Pam Mazurek will scan and e-mail to us for our review.
     2. The previous committee set standards and prioritize to frame the recommendation. Previous committee implemented some controls as a fail/safe.
     + Best interests for the children
     + Supports educational goals
     + Economical/affordable
     + Efficient
     + Easily implemented
     + Equitable – ex: what happens for one neighborhood has to be same for others
     + Legal
     + Defendable/Supportive
     + Evaluated and accountable
     + Practical/Reasonable/Realistic
     + Justifiable
     + Track record/proven success
     + Flexible
     + Industry practices and best practices
     1. The Board is supposed to recertify each year. Previous administrations and boards did not, probably out of sight-out of mind.
     2. The recommendation has to meet all criteria for the Board to be able to add their points.
  2. **Recommendations from the TransPar Study**

1. **Committee work requirements**
   1. **State Transportation** 
      1. **Definition of terms –** Review once again to make sure we understand the terms.
      2. **Rules and regulations –** Review the parameters once again to make sure we understand for consideration with section V(B)(1-8). Look at the 8 options for the next meeting to consider how the options affect the community and students.
   2. **Discussion concerning walk-zone operations**

Question: Is there state funding for mitigating hazards (ex: stoplight by Old Quarry on 127th)?

Answer: The light was a package deal from IDOT and County grant.

Question: What is land-to-cash?

Answer: If the district uses land, we have to follow certain ordinances (ex: building a school or park. The school received cash, the park received land. The school district can decide how to use the cash – typically used for the benefit of the subdivision of the land.

Question: Can the 8 options be made in VersaTran? We have to take into consideration if things happen, how it affects transportation.

Answer: Yes, Pam can create future maps based on shifting students or any criterion.

Question: We are making the decision on what to recommend to the Board. Does the Transportation Committee need to reach a consensus or vast majority for a recommendation?

Answer: No, if there is a dissenting opinion, the Board needs to hear that also. We recommend any and all options raised as a result of the committee’s analysis.

Question: Why does it seem like the focus is on Central?

Answer: Central is financial decision, not in the parameters of the Transportation Committee. However, this committee needs to factor in potential adjustments to Central and the impact to our recommendation.

* + 1. **Current configurations**
    2. **No Central riders**
    3. **Only grades 3-4 riders from River Valley to Central (100-150 students)**
    4. **Preschool – K at Central**
    5. **Preschool – 1 at Central**
    6. **Fifth graders moved to OQMS**
    7. **Grades 3-4-5 reconfigured from River Valley to Central (100-150 students)**
    8. **Oakwood and River Valley as one school and one start time**

1. **Homework: Internet search** – building knowledge
   1. **How are other districts addressing walk-zones**

Are we comparable to other districts? Does age or grade of child bear any determination? Some districts are taking a proactive approach, moving to ½-mile stops.

* 1. **What information is out there pertaining to riders carpooling**

Our district should promote carpooling.

* 1. **Walk teams**
  2. **Safe walk routes**

The state is pushing safe routes. 127th is now a safe route. McCarthy will eventually have sidewalks and may become a safe route.

* 1. **Safe/block houses**

Inform the parents…

* 1. **Varied start times for walkers and bus riders**

The way we bring cars and buses in and out of the campuses can be modified. For example, cars may be able to enter River Valley off State Street if we need.

1. **Other Items to be Considered**

**We need to select two members to serve as the Co-Chair for the committee**

1. **Next Meetings:** 12/09/10 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
2. **Adjourn:** 8:05 p.m. (Recorder left).