

# **Lemont-Bromberek Combined School District 113A**

## **Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date and Time: June 9, 2011

Location: Transportation Department Building

### **I. Welcome and Introductions:** Called to order at 6:33 p.m.

- Addition of School Board Member, David Molitor

### **II. Review of 2010-2011 work**

- A. School Board voted to close Central School for 2011-2012
- B. Versa-Tran System to establish new routes to each campus, optimizing crossing guards. School Board's decision to cut three routes brought sd113a transportation into compliance with state guidelines. More planning, review, and courses to follow.

### **III. Review of Board Action**

- A. New bus lease and equipment
  - i. School Board approved a new lease on May 2 for 19 bus route buses. Still need two additional buses for fleet and two special needs buses. Recommended standard is to allocate one spare bus to every ten buses in fleet.
  - ii. The decision to cut three route buses and one spare bus saved approximately \$123,000 in lease negotiations, salaries, fuel, and maintenance.
- B. State's finance decisions
  - i. Initial funding cut communicated in August was 42%. We have been advised that an additional 50% will be cut after the 42%, resulting in a potential overall reduction of approximately 63% from state transportation reimbursement. We are hoping for 58% but remain in flux. We haven't received any reimbursements for this fiscal year, which has been paid as early as December in previous years and was caught up in June last fiscal year. Reimbursement payments are made in arrears.
  - ii. Special needs reimbursements will not be cut and are factored separate from transportation reimbursements.
  - iii. State is pushing walking and biking. Many states do not provide transportation reimbursements.

### **IV. Review of District Structure for 2012**

- A. Schools
  - i. No Central

ii. Oakwood/River Valley	EC – 4	8:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
iii. Old Quarry Middle School	5 – 8	7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
iv. St. Cyril		8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
v. St. Al's/Pat's		7:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

B. Effects on walk zones

- i. Pave sidewalks in common areas and developing areas of Covington Knolls? Builder is responsible to finish sidewalks as lots are developed.
- ii. Revisit residences on fringe of 1.5-mile border for safety. Some have unfinished sidewalks and look at ages of children (i.e., if majority on cusp is K-2, maybe allow). Computer look at basic criteria but may not always consider extenuating factors.
- iii. Crossing guards – As of April, Lemont Police Department has the budget to add crossing guards based on recommendation from the committee. Need notice ASAP so that recruitment, background checks, and schedules can be prepared in advance of August. With Central closing, that crossing guard can be redeployed. In the past, we didn't need a crossing guard for west of State St because OQ still needed 19 route buses. However, if we are only looking at OW/RV campus, this may be an option.

**V. Discussion Pertaining to 2012**

- A. Reconfiguring bus routes to optimize crossing guards allows for two more bus routes to be eliminated and that equipment may be allocated to the two spare buses in the fleet.
- B. Issue at OQ is not bus riders as much as drivers in car rider lines. OQ campus is designing traffic control patterns and turnabouts (i.e., “pork chops”). Access through Core parking lot has been a large contributor to issues this past fiscal year. RV/OW principals will work with the Lemont Police Department on traffic patterns as well.
- C. Pay-to-ride options – Once we pursue potential vendors, Pam can coordinate a Parent Night to communicate options and enable parents to sign up for a service, if interested. Pam can add the question to probe interest in pay-to-ride to the parent letter that informs them if they will not have bus service in 2011-2012.
- D. Parent feedback?
  - i. Some St. Cyril parents not happy about later afternoon time due to afterschool activities. However, the late schedule does not affect school-sponsored afterschool events, just personal unrelated activities.
  - ii. Parents didn't know if school hours were changing at any of the campuses (i.e., drop off and pick up times).
  - iii. Parents have general feeling of not being informed. School year just ended and fiscal year-end deliverables will be completed by June 14<sup>th</sup>. Communications, schedules, and plans will follow directly thereafter.

- E. Communication for 2011-2012
  - i. RV/OW principal communication for walkers and car riders safety
  - ii. Safety village
  - iii. Lemont Police to speak first week of August (sponsored by LJWC?)

**VI. Future Planning/Deliverables**

- A. Contact Lemont Junior Women's Club to gauge interest in sponsoring the Lemont Police Department Parent Safety meeting. If so, pick a date for first week of August (Amy).
- B. Probe with bus vendors about availability to support pay-to-ride options (Pam).
- C. Post updated walk zone map for St. Cyril on website (Pam).
- D. Post Safety Village information on website (Pam).
- E. Committee members can send e-mail to parents with inquiries (Patty to draft).  
*The logistics for 2011-2012 bus routes are still being finalized. Information will be forthcoming in early August. In the meantime, please refer to the School District 113a website [www.sd113a.org](http://www.sd113a.org) for school hours, walk zones, and updates.*

**VII. Next Meeting – June 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.**