

School Transportation Update – 11/4/2021

1. How many drivers do we currently have employed for pupil transportation (full-time and part-time/relief)?

When service started in August, pupil had 12 regular drivers and 3 relief drivers.

Today, we have 11 regular drivers and 3 relief drivers.

Additionally, six transit drivers are assisting pupil transportation daily.

2. How many are currently in training and when are they expected to be available for routes?

Over the past 30 days, five individuals entered training.

- Two have completed training and testing and are operating routes as of October 11th.
- One completed the classroom training and has started behind the wheel training. DMV road test is scheduled for November 6th.
- One completed the classroom training and is studying to get the CDL learner's license – test scheduled for November 10th.
- One completed the classroom training and has resigned.

3. How many bus drivers have been hired since August 2021?

We interviewed and extended offers to 13 individuals:

- Two completed training and are operating routes
- Four continue to work through the physical and background check process to start training.
- Two are currently in classroom training
- Two begin classroom training Monday, November 8th, assuming pre-work physicals will be completed.

(It is important to note that CAT uses WorkMed for pre-employment physicals, and CAT has been informed that WorkMed will not schedule anymore physicals until after January 1st, 2022.) This means that we will more than likely lose the four individuals we recently hired.

- Two accepted other employment offers.

- One resigned

4. How many routes are currently available for each transportation tier (elementary, middle, and high school)?

When service started in August, we had routed 13 elementary routes (including doubles at Clark and Johnson), 9 middle school routes, 8 high school routes, and 7 alternative school routes.

As of today, we have 17 elementary routes (including doubles at Clark and Johnson), 12 middle school routes, 10 high school routes, and 8 alternative school routes. (We're in the process of adding one more high school route.)

Additionally, CAT/Pupil has assigned Bus Aides to 4 van routes for alternative placement students.

CAT/Pupil continues to manage a third-party contract with OnTime Transportation to transport 13 students to various schools at the price of \$8k per week.

- 1 student to McKinney Vento
- 1 student to a school in Richmond from foster care in Orange.
- 11 special needs students (due to operator shortage).

5. Describe the current driver recruiting efforts and plans.

For the Charlottesville region, we are running radio ads on five FM stations, and two AM stations.

Facebook employment ads started October 18, 2021.

Advertising banners have been installed on Avon Street.

6. Any other information or comments you would like shared with the Board/public?

The local DMV has temporarily closed. According to the website the location will be closed for at least 30 days. The closing of DMV will affect the School Bus Operator training timeline by at least 30 days.

Additionally, we are encountering problems with scheduling pre-employment physicals. CAT/Pupil is exploring additional options due to WorkMed not having available times until after January 1, 2022.