

MAPT
800 Main Street, Suite 267
Holden, MA 01520
www.mapt.us

Special Education Transportation Task Force January 8, 2019 Minutes

Members present: Colleen Cavanaugh, Margaret Driscoll, Carla Jentz, Joanne-Haley Sullivan, Michael Laliberte, Gerald Mazor, James Daiute, John Hennessey and Jay Sullivan.

Meeting Convened at 1:07PM.

Presentations/Marketing

A networking opportunity was provided by ASE and MASC/MASS at their recent conferences. Information was distributed and participants were given the chance to inquire about the project. Several referrals were obtained and follow up is being conducted. A panel presentation represented by business managers that have participated in the review process will be conducted at the MASBO annual conference on May 15th. Mr. Daiute will look into the possibility of providing space for a table at the maaps annual conference on May 3, 2019.

District Reviews

Update was provided on status of reviews. Currently three districts are participating in the evaluation process. One of these is a district that has asked for a re-visit due to several changes in their operations. The cost will be determined based upon the amount of work required.

Website Updates

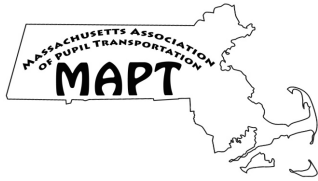
Usage data was provided utilizing google analytics for the time period, August 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018. It was reported that 129 districts have accessed the website during that time. There was a peak in usage in November that can be attributed to networking at the MASC/MASS annual conference. A survey was developed to access the website for members to review. Suggested changes will be sent to Ms. Cavanaugh. The goal is to have it appear on the website as a pop up for users to complete. The vendor data base was updated and a mapping tool has been created to illustrate where vendors hold contracts in the state. Information was obtained through a survey sent to MASBO members in March 2018, with 199 districts reporting. The information can be viewed by type of transportation; special education, homeless, regular education and out-of-district vocational school transport. Ms., Cavanaugh demonstrated this and other features of the website. Recommendation made to create documentation on the site for users to ascertain what information can be obtained from the various modules and instruction on use. It was discussed that a main goal is to roll out the website across the organizations once this has been put in place.

Other

MAPT has formed a sub-committee to look at 7D issues. Efforts are underway to develop training protocols as mandated by the State through new regulations. Driver licensing continues to be an issue. Efforts will be made to look into what is causing this and address this with the RMV.

It was suggested the task force create a tagline as part of the marketing phase of the project. Members were asked to identify various options.

Ms Jentz will work on a draft letter to the Commissioner and will forward to members for input.



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The FY19 October 1 data will be available within a few weeks. Recommendation made to illustrate the financial aspect of transportation over the past several years to identify trends for both regular and special education transportation. Ms. Cavanaugh will review what financial data is needed to generate this report.

It is unclear at this time if funding for this effort will continue next year, the current contract expires August 31, 2019.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3 2019, at 10:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Cavanaugh