



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

Special Education Transportation Task Force March 5, 2018 Minutes

Members present: Colleen Cavanaugh, John Hennessey, Gerry Mazor, Margaret Driscoll, James Daiute, Carla Jentz and Jay Sullivan.

Meeting Convened at 10:00 AM.

Contract Work

District Reviews: Ipswich Public schools is currently being conducted, RC Mahar Regional, Wareham and West Bridgewater have expressed interest. Follow up will be conducted for districts that had a review conducted last year.

Presentations: Ms. Cavanaugh conducted a presentation at the MASS/MASC conference. Several participants reached out for more information and have expressed an interested in a review following the session. Stakeholders were asked if their organizations would be willing to host an information session for their respective members.

Website: The current October 1 data has been uploaded to the website. Ms. Cavanaugh recommended creating a mapping option of the October 1 data. She will work with John Manzi on this initiative. This will provide folks with a visual depiction of the data available on the site and will assist them in looking to collaborate with districts attending the same program(s).

Also recommended was an effort to establish a statewide vendor data base. The need for this has been expressed by many school districts throughout the state and can also assist with homeless transportation. Discussion followed as to how the Taskforce can align with the State established Commission on Homeless Transportation. The creation of a data base will assist in the transportation of homeless students as well as out of district special education students.

Ms. Cavanaugh will draft a survey through survey monkey. A conference call will be held on Monday, March 12th at 2:00 PM to discuss. Mr. Sullivan will provide folks with the conference call information. The survey will be sent from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to all business managers in the State.

Marketing: It was recommended to add district testimonials to the brochure. The follow up conversation with districts will include questions to identify where change was effective, what are the drawbacks and challenges.

Discussion followed on districts that operate their own transportation but do not make their vans available to transport other districts. Is there a policy for districts on this issue? It was suggested to reach out to MASC to see if there exist policies around transporting students from other districts. Should the task force work to develop guidelines around district transportation? The vendor survey will also ask about district operated transportation.



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Transportation Reimbursement: Is this an area the Taskforce could re-revisit? Discussion to be continued.

Stakeholder Input

Ms. Jentz suggested the Task Force meet with the new Commissioner to discuss Taskforce initiatives. A statement from the Department would assist the project in meeting some of its goals and generate support from the districts.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held at the MASBO office, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, on May 23, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Cavanaugh