

MASBO – WEST

Bi-Monthly Meeting

Special Education Transportation

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Cost Factors Affecting Transportation Services

- Not all special education students can be serviced in-district
- Students may require a monitor, nurse, adaptive equipment
- Districts utilize the 7D vehicle to transport at an average vehicle cost of \$30,000 to \$40,000 annually based on 180 days
- More programs are operating between 200 and 220 days
- Based on the October 1 DESE Census for FY2018: 10,492 students attended 403 special education out-of-district schools/programs

October 1 DESE Census FY2018

PROGRAM TYPE	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Collaborative Programs	192	4,161
Private Schools	132	5,836
Other	79	581
TOTAL	403	10,492

Transportation Costs FY16 Schedule 7

- Total Cost for All Special Education Transportation was \$310,061,855 for 54,901 students
 - this includes both in-district and out-of-district transportation to all special education programs.
- The cost of out-of-district transportation in FY16 was \$108,718,383 represented by 9,587 Riders
- Cost per student \$11,341

Total Cost of Special Education Transportation FY 2016

TYPE OF PROGRAM	EXPENDITURES	# OF STUDENTS	PRICE/STUDENT
Preschool	\$41,561,649	9,097	\$4,569
Public School Programs	\$155,398,946	35,881	\$4,331
Public Separate Day Schools	\$48,431,483	4,563	\$10, 614
Private Day Schools	\$59,110,458	4,706	\$12,562
Private Residential Schools	\$4,514,217	478	\$9,444
Homebound/Hospital	\$389,610	87	\$4,478
Public Residential	\$655,492	89	\$7,365
TOTAL	\$310,061,855	54,901	

Total Costs for Out-of-District Transportation FY2016

TYPE OF PROGRAM	EXPENDITURES	# OF STUDENTS	PRICE/STUDENT
Preschool	\$ 2,622,546	279	\$ 9,400
Public School Programs	\$ 10,121,281	975	\$ 10,381
Public Separate Day Schools	\$ 32,545,718	3,129	\$ 10,401
Private Day Schools	\$ 57,974,852	4,568	\$ 12,692
Private Residential Schools	\$ 4,453,640	470	\$ 9,476
Homebound/Hospital	\$ 366,302	80	\$ 4,478
Public Residential Institutions	\$ 634,044	86	\$ 7,373
TOTAL	\$ 108,718,383	11,340	

Special Education Transportation Task Force

- In 2003 representatives from MASS, MOEC, maaps, MAPT and ASE organized to discuss rising costs in out-of-district special education transportation
- A State Wide Task Force was created in 2004
- Preliminary study showed significant cost savings by consolidating routes
- For the past several years the Massachusetts Legislature and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education have funded initiatives to reduce cost of out-of-district transportation

Task Force Members

- **Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents**
- **Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives**
- **Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials**
- **Massachusetts Association of School Committees**
- **Massachusetts Association of Special Education Administrators**
- **Massachusetts Association of Approved Private Schools**
- **Massachusetts Association of Pupil Transportation**

What Can be Done to Create Efficiencies?

- Utilize a shared multi-district approach
- Participation in a regional transportation network or Collaborative
- Information arrangements made between towns/districts
- District owned and operated transportation
- Bid special education transportation to receive competitive prices

Cost Savings

- Significant savings can be realized when several districts share vehicle costs
- Vehicle cost divided by the number of districts on the vehicle

Cost Savings Example

- Significant cost savings can result if districts share routes

Cost Savings Example			
<u>District</u>	<u>Current per Day Cost*</u>	<u>Cost Avoidance*</u>	<u>Annual Savings180 Days</u>
Boxford PS	\$71.60	\$215.00	\$25,812.00
Newburyport PS	\$71.60	\$215.00	\$25,812.00
Topsfield PS	\$71.60	\$215.00	<u>\$25,812.00</u>
Combined Cost Avoidance (Savings):			<u>\$77,436.00</u>

*Hypothetical figures based on past data collected

Resources Available

- A website was developed in FY2012 to show the October 1 DESE Data

www.spedtranssavings.org

- This data can assist in identifying contiguous districts to explore potential ride sharing

YOU ARE HERE:

[District Data](#)

DIRECTIONS

DESE OCTOBER 1 FY18 DATA

- Under Special Education Transportation Inquiry below - use drop down for "Choose District"
- Select "All Districts" this will show you all special education programs in the State (option to choose your district will show you only programs you send students to)
- Select the program you want to view. **Data is for the current year.**
- Data can be exported to an Excel spreadsheet
- Click this link: [Massachusetts County Map with Program Information](#) to obtain geographic and contact information from DESE
 - Click on county, town
 - Public, Private and Collaborative schools/program listed
 - Select program/school for contact information

[Massachusetts County Map PDF](#)

To access **VENDOR DATA**, hover over the "District Data" tab on this page, click "Vendor Lookup". Select a town, all vendors holding contracts with districts within a 10 mile radius of the selected district will be provided. Please note this is represented by data collected over the past several years, contracts may not be current.

[How to Use the Data](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION INQUIRY

Choose District:

All Districts ▼

Choose Program:

Valley West School ▼

Can be exported to Excel

OCT 1 DESE DATA

Program Name	Program Location	Sending District	County	Stud#	Student Town
Valley West School	Chicopee	Agawam	Hampden	7	Agawam
Valley West School	Chicopee	Belchertown	Hampshire	2	Belchertown
Valley West School	Chicopee	Brimfield	Hampden	1	Brimfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	Chicopee	Hampden	4	Chicopee
Valley West School	Chicopee	Easthampton	Hampshire	5	Easthampton
Valley West School	Chicopee	East Longmeadow	Hampden	15	East Longmeadow
Valley West School	Chicopee	Granby	Hampshire	2	Granby
Valley West School	Chicopee	Hatfield	Hampshire	1	Hatfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	Holyoke	Hampden	2	Holyoke
Valley West School	Chicopee	Lee	Berkshire	1	Lee
Valley West School	Chicopee	Lenox	Berkshire	1	Lenox
Valley West School	Chicopee	Longmeadow	Hampden	3	Longmeadow
Valley West School	Chicopee	Ludlow	Hampden	3	Ludlow

SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION INQUIRY

Choose District:

Ludlow ▼

Choose Program:

Valley West School ▼

OCT 1 DESE DATA

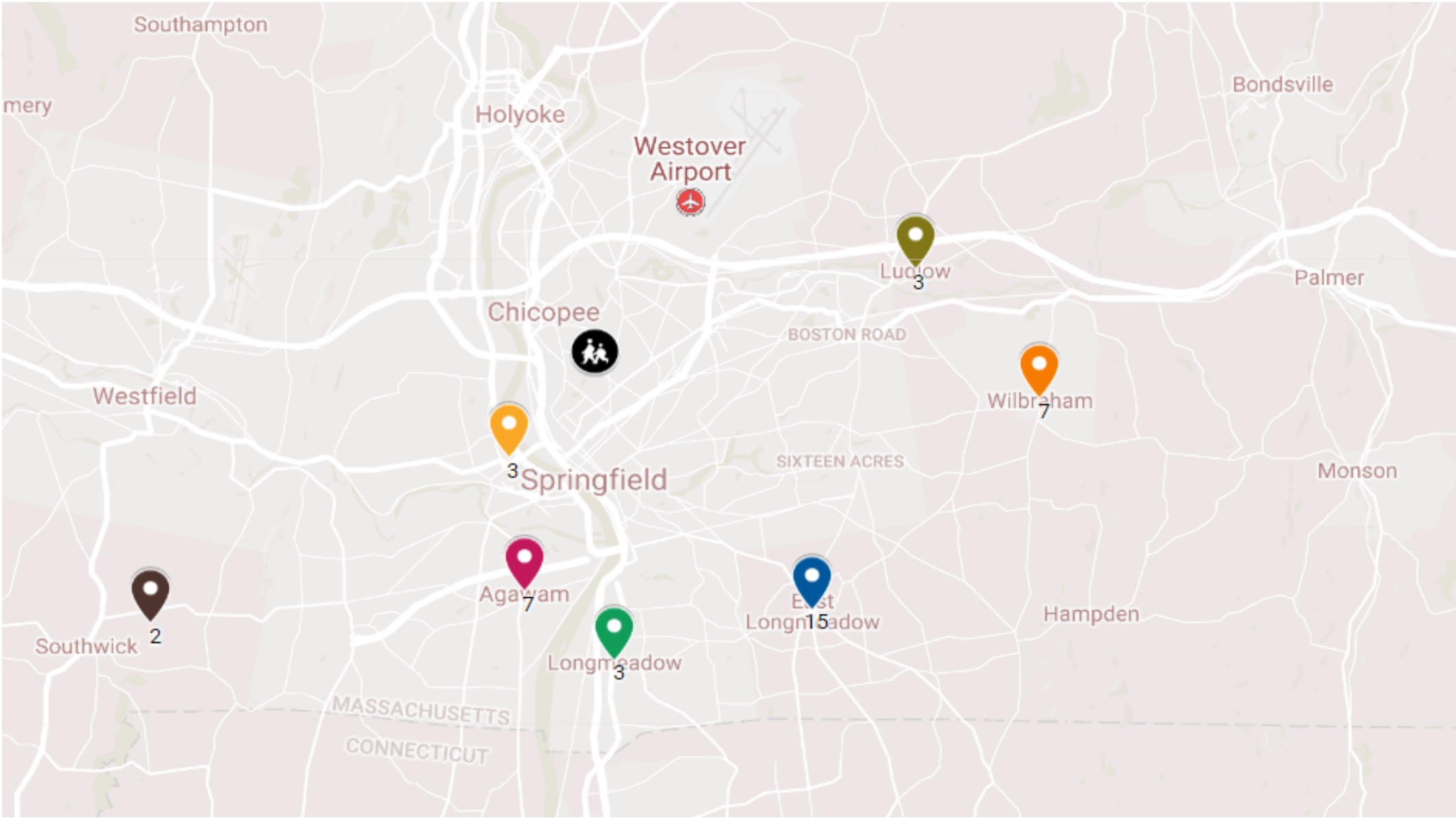
Program Name	Program Location	Sending District	County	Stud#	Student Town
Valley West School	Chicopee	Agawam	Hampden	7	Agawam
Valley West School	Chicopee	Belchertown	Hampshire	2	Belchertown
Valley West School	Chicopee	Brimfield	Hampden	1	Brimfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	Chicopee	Hampden	4	Chicopee
Valley West School	Chicopee	Easthampton	Hampshire	5	Easthampton
Valley West School	Chicopee	East Longmeadow	Hampden	15	East Longmeadow
Valley West School	Chicopee	Granby	Hampshire	2	Granby
Valley West School	Chicopee	Hatfield	Hampshire	1	Hatfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	Holyoke	Hampden	2	Holyoke
Valley West School	Chicopee	Lee	Berkshire	1	Lee
Valley West School	Chicopee	Lenox	Berkshire	1	Lenox
Valley West School	Chicopee	Longmeadow	Hampden	3	Longmeadow
Valley West School	Chicopee	Ludlow	Hampden	3	Ludlow
Valley West School	Chicopee	Monson	Hampden	1	Monson
Valley West School	Chicopee	Northampton	Hampshire	4	Northampton
Valley West School	Chicopee	Palmer	Hampden	1	Palmer
Valley West School	Chicopee	Shutesbury	Franklin	1	Shutesbury
Valley West School	Chicopee	South Hadley	Hampshire	1	South Hadley
Valley West School	Chicopee	Springfield	Hampden	7	Springfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	Ware	Worcester	1	Ware
Valley West School	Chicopee	Westfield	Hampden	3	Westfield
Valley West School	Chicopee	West Springfield	Hampden	1	Agawam
Valley West School	Chicopee	West Springfield	Hampden	2	West Springfield

VENDOR LOOKUP

West Springfield ▼

Dist	District	Vendor	Address	City	State	Phone	E-Mail
10	LUDLOW	LPVEC	159 Dennison Rd	East Longmeadow	MA	413-525-6616	ccrowe@lpvec.org
9	SOUTH HADLEY	Van Pool	POB 1000	Wilbraham	MA	413-599-5522	kevin@vanpoolma.com
8	EAST LONGMEADOW	East Longmeadow PS	180 Maple Street	East Longmeadow	MA	413-883-9277	tgamble@eastlongmeadowma.gov
8	EAST LONGMEADOW	LPVEC	159 Dennison Rd	East Longmeadow	MA	413-525-6616	ccrowe@lpvec.org
8	SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND-GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRI	On Time Vans	51 Passadina Rd	Dorchester	MA		
8	SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND-GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRI	Southwick-Tolland PS	86 Powder Mill Rd	Southwick	MA	413-569-5391	kwz14@comcast.net
7	HOLYOKE	Dunham	POB 23	Hingham	MA	781-749-4901	
7	HOLYOKE	Durham	260 Eliot St	Ashland	MA	508-881-3869	
7	HOLYOKE	First Student	600 Berkshire Ave	Springfield	MA		
7	HOLYOKE	Holyoke PS	57 Suffolk St	Holyoke	MA	413-534-2000	
7	HOLYOKE	Van Pool	POB 1000	Wilbraham	MA	413-599-5522	kevin@vanpoolma.com
6	CHICOPEE	Van Pool	POB 1000	Wilbraham	MA	413-599-5522	kevin@vanpoolma.com
6	LONGMEADOW	LPVEC	159 Dennison Rd	East Longmeadow	MA	413-525-6616	ccrowe@lpvec.org
6	WESTFIELD	Lecrenski Brothers	14 Delmont Ave	Westfield	MA		
6	WESTFIELD	On Time Vans	51 Passadina Rd	Dorchester	MA		
6	WESTFIELD	Van Pool	POB 1000	Wilbraham	MA	413-599-5522	kevin@vanpoolma.com
6	WESTFIELD	Westfield PS	1029 North Road	Westfield	MA	413-572-6403	
4	AGAWAM	LPVEC	159 Dennison Rd	East Longmeadow	MA	413-525-6616	ccrowe@lpvec.org

Valley West School



POTENTIAL PROGRAMS FOR RIDE SHARING MASBO-WEST

PROGRAM	Agawam	East Longmeadow	Hampden-Wilbraham	Longmeadow	Ludlow	Southwick-Tolland-Greenville	West Springfield	Total
Clarke School			1				4	5
Collaborative for Educational Services: HEC Academy	1	1						2
Curtis Blake Day School	1						1	2
Eagle Hill				1	1			2
Experiment with Travel School					1		1	2
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Autism Elementary Program				1	2		2	5
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Brush Hill Academy		1			2			3
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Career Prep Program	1	2	3					6
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Career Skills Program	2	1	2	2	1			8
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Compass High School	3		2					5
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: COPA	1		1	1			3	6
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Integrated Occupational Prep		5	1	6	1		3	16
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Twain	4	2	1	3				10
Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Vocational Prep	2	1	1					4
Mill Pond School	2	4	3		2		1	12
N.E.A.R.I. School					1	1	3	5
Springdale Education Center School	1	1						2
Sunshine Village	2			1				3
The Center School	3	1			1	1	4	10
The May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities - West Springfield	1	3		2	2	1		9
Tri-County Schools						1	4	5
Valley West School	7	15	7	3	3	2	3	40
White Oak School		4			1		2	7
Willie Ross School for the Deaf			1			1	4	6
TOTAL	31	41	23	20	18	7	35	175

Resources Available

- The Massachusetts Association of Pupil Transportation was awarded a contract from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Activities include conducting Special Education Transportation reviews with a 50% contribution from the district
- Scope of Work to be Conducted
 - Review all contracts and in-house operations if appropriate
 - Explore option of district operated program
 - Conduct analysis of transportation budget and route costs
 - Review IEP process
 - Other areas the district would like addressed

What Have We Learned From Some of the Reviews We Have Completed?

- **Maximizing** vehicle load is key to savings
- Makes sense to see if neighboring/contiguous communities also have children attending same out of district school
- Sometimes this is not possible
 - Some students need to ride alone
 - Age differences
 - Geography between schools and/or home
 - Existing contracts with vendor(s)

What Have We Learned From Some of the Reviews We Have Completed?

- Seek competitive pricing for out of district routes
- Allow vendor to add students from other districts for a ride share and provide that information to the districts
- Assign someone in district to handle all aspects transportation
- Discussion at the IEP meeting impacts transportation costs
 - Does the student require specialized transportation and why?
 - Does the student require a monitor and why?

Considerations

- Some vendors will share information with you for the best price while others are more guarded with their route information
- Know your neighbors
- The telephone can be your most valuable tool to secure a good price
- A few minutes invested can save considerable money

Considerations

- What is the least restrictive environment for these students?
- Ride alone or ride with peers?
- Who is paying and who should be in control?

CONTACT INFORMATION

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