

Pupil Transportation

DESCRIPTION

The School Transportation Program plays a vital role in the education process in the County. In addition to providing transportation to and from school, buses also transport students to extra curricular activities such as educational field trips, band and choral concerts, and sporting events.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- To maintain a safe and efficient transportation system;
- To provide defensive driving, first aid classes, and discipline training as part of the driver training program;
- To deploy traffic guards where applicable to ensure the safety of students and buses entering and leaving the schools.

SERVICE LEVELS

The Transportation Department has achieved many goals this past year in an effort to maintain a safe and efficient transportation system. Transportation administrators meet monthly with the Bus Driver Advisory Committee to promote safety and to establish better lines of communication among drivers and school personnel.

Defensive driving and first aid classes were conducted as a part of the driver training program. During the past year, traffic guards ensured the safety of students and buses entering and leaving all secondary schools, and some elementary schools to ensure the safety of parents and students. In addition, drivers received assertive discipline training as part of the driver training program. To further assist drivers with maintaining discipline, twelve video cameras and seventy video camera boxes were installed on various buses throughout the County. To enhance the safety of students being transported, more than sixty-five buses were equipped with two way radios. Drivers also participated in the annual School Bus Road-ee. Hanover, Henrico, Chesterfield, and Richmond each sent six drivers to the Road-ee for the central region. Hanover County placed one driver in the State competition. School bus drivers receive a safe driving award each year for driving the entire year without a preventable accident. A Safe Driving Banquet was held for all drivers.

	<u>FY97</u>	<u>FY98</u>	<u>FY99</u>	<u>FY00</u>	<u>FY01</u>	<u>FY02</u>	<u>FY03</u>	<u>FY04</u>
Buses	185	208	210	216	225	227	235	237
Number of students transported daily	13,500	14,826	15,016	15,414	15,804	16,262	16,567	16,717
Extra curricular trips	1,500	1,700	1,800	1,895	2,122	2,271	2,303	2,299
Handicapped buses	10	12	14	16	18	19	19	19
Handicapped vehicles	24	24	25	26	27	25	28	26
Miles traveled *	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
*Miles in millions								

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BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

FY05

The budget includes funds for eight additional bus drivers for growth and a full-time Special Needs Coordinator. The operating expenses for maintenance continue to grow due to the increase in the size of the vehicular fleet.

FY06

The budget request includes no new driver positions, two(2) special needs bus attendants.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Expenditures

	FY04	FY04	FY05	FY06	Percent
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Pupil Transportation:					
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$ 4,029,621	\$ 3,890,119	\$ 4,341,284	\$ 4,582,662	5.6%
Operating Expenditures	1,716,780	1,668,917	1,886,292	1,965,118	4.2%
Capital Outlay	16,700	48,265	39,690	26,798	-32.5%
TOTAL, Pupil Transportation	<u>\$ 5,763,101</u>	<u>\$ 5,607,301</u>	<u>\$ 6,267,266</u>	<u>\$ 6,574,578</u>	<u>4.9%</u>
Full-time Positions	255.0	266.0	265.9	269.9	1.5%
Part-time Positions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Full-time Equivalents	254.6	256.9	265.9	269.9	1.5%