

December 15, 2021

**RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION IN RESPONSE
TO THE NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE**

WHEREAS, according to a joint survey conducted by the National Association of Pupil Transportation (NAPT), the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS), and the National School Transportation Association (NTA) there is currently a nationwide shortage of school bus drivers; and

WHEREAS, due to the national school bus driver shortage, as of Sept[^] { à^!ÉÁc@^!Öä•c!î&çq•Á à~•Á transportation vendors began the 2021-22 school year with only 500 of the 1,200 school bus drivers required to meet student transportation needs; and

Knowledge Schools and Programs (Magnet Policy) (Board Report 17-0426-PO2) outlines how the District will provide school bus transportation for various Options for Knowledge schools and programs; and

WHEREAS, the District has diligently pursued new vendors and signed on six new vendors and 120 new routes since Septe { à^!Áæ}âÁâ {]|^ { ^}c^âÁæÁ} ~ { à^!Á [-Á [c@^!Á•c!æc^*â^•Ác [Áâ] &!^æ•^Ác@^!ââ•c!î&çq•Á transportation capacity; and

WHEREAS, 720 students with disabilities have agreed to accept transportation reimbursement and incentives for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year;

WHEREAS, the District has made incentive payments of \$1,000 to 5,157 families and \$1,500 mileage reimbursement payments to 3,478 families for the months of October, November, and December 2021 who have used alternatives to Board-provided transportation; and

WHEREAS, despite all of these efforts, the District has been unable to secure enough school bus

WHEREAS, in compliance with a Letter of Finding dated November 12, 2021, issued by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for the systemic state complaint 2022-CO-0022 relating to transportation for students with IEPs for the 2021-22 school year, the District has submitted a plan of action to ISBE to provide transportation to students with IEPs that includes the following elements:

Securing new transportation vendors. The District has contracted with six new transportation companies, including North Star Taxi Cab, Ride-A-Long Transportation, Allen Green, Yellow Bus, Flash Cab, and Kalaju Transportation. The District has secured 120 routes from these new transportation companies.

Providing vendor incentives to r

- a. Diverse Learners with an IEP requiring transportation and Students in Temporary Living Situations (STLS)
 - b. General Education Students enrolled in schools of choice who qualify for transportation on the basis of income
 - c. All other General Education Students enrolled in Magnet, Selective Enrollment or other Options for Knowledge schools and programs
2. At the January 26, 2022 Board meeting, the Transportation Department will provide a progress action plan to provide transportation to all students with IEPs and STLS students requiring transportation by the start of the second semester.
3. The Transportation Department will conduct a review of all Board Rules as of _____ A