

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE)**  
**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)**

Thursday, October 3, 2019  
State Board Room (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), John A. Hannah Building

<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING</b> <b>9:00 – 10:15 a.m. – Hannah Building – State Board Room</b>
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The subcommittee meets prior to the regular meeting to review and discuss agenda items in preparation for the regular meeting. PTAC representatives are welcome to attend. Topics covered include:

- a) Curriculum and Training
- b) Management and Best Practices
- c) State and National Issues

<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING</b> <b>10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon – Hannah Building – State Board Room</b>
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Louis Burgess.

**II. ROLL CALL AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

All members and guests were asked to sign in. Members were introduced, and the guests were Tom Bryant, Michigan Department of State (MDOS); Kathleen Hoehne, MDE; Tracey Moore, Ingham ISD; and Debra Swartz, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

**Michigan Department of Education**

Louis Burgess  
Ken Micklash

**State**

John Harris (Alternate)

**Transportation**

Rob Pearson (Primary)

**Michigan Assn. for Pupil Transportation (MAPT)**

Howard (Mac) Dashney (Primary)  
David Meeuwsen (Alternate)

**Michigan Assn. of ISD Administrators**

Kelli Schultz (Primary)  
Kim Hooper (Alternate)

**Michigan Assn. of School Administrators**

Joseph Candela (Primary)

**Michigan Assn. of School Bus Officials**

Jill Segal (Primary)

**Office of Great Start/Head Start Collaboration Office**

Kaitlyn Ferrick (Primary)

**Training Agency Assn. of Michigan (TAAM)**

Jo Allen (Alternate)

**Representing:**

Northern Michigan Directors

Donna Korzeniewski (Alternate)

Private Contractors – Dean Transportation

Fred Doelker (Alternate)

Rural Michigan Directors

Kevin Doty (Primary)

Suburban Michigan Directors

Mary Delor (Primary)

Urban Michigan Directors

Carl Ingram (Primary)

**Guest**

Tom Bryant, MDOS

Kathleen Hoehne, MDE

Tracey Moore, Ingham ISD

Debra Swartz, EGLE

**III. APPROVAL OF June 6, 2019, MEETING MINUTES**

Howard (Mac) Dashney moved, and Fred Doelker seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

**IV. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Howard (Mac) Dashney moved, and Kevin Doty seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

**V. OPENING COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS**

A. MDE Initiated - Micklash

1. Debra Swartz, EGLE, reported on the Electric Bus event recently held at the capitol. Funds from the Volkswagen Decree were awarded to seven Michigan school districts (Zeeland, Ann Arbor, Gaylord, Kalamazoo, Oxford, Roseville and Three Rivers public schools.) Eighteen electric buses were purchased by this program. The event was attended by Governor Gretchen Witmer, a representative from Canada, the State Superintendent, and the Director of EGLE. Plans for future grant programs were outlined. MAPT is an active partner with EGLE on planning for the second round of grants. The goal of both programs is emission reduction.

2. Tom Bryant, (MDOS), updated PTAC about upcoming entry level driver training rules from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.
  - a. Beginning 2/7/20, a person seeking a new CDL, an upgraded group designation, or a PS endorsement must complete training with a registered Training Provider.
  - b. All entities that train persons seeking a new CDL, an upgraded group designation, or a PS endorsement must register as a Training Provider on the FMCSA Training Provider Registry. FMCSA reports the site should be ready in January for the 2/7/20 implementation deadline. The process is a registration—i.e., there is not a review.
  - c. The curriculum used to train drivers must contain all elements in the federal rules and must include a written knowledge test (minimum score 80 percent).
  - d. A Training Provider must maintain training records including classroom hours, behind-the-wheel hours and a copy of the written knowledge test taken by the student. Records are subject to inspection.
  - e. Beginning 2/7/22, a Training Provider must electronically report student completions to the federal registry.  
[UPDATE: subsequent to the meeting, a federal official told a national stakeholder group that the rule’s implementation deadline will be pushed back two years.]
3. Kathleen Hoehne, MDE, provided up to date transportation information related to child foster care. A PowerPoint handout of presentation was sent to all PTAC members.
4. Mac (Howard) Dashney, (MAPT), Senior Consultant, provided an overview of recent MAPT accomplishments (electric bus roll-out) and future trainings.

**VI. PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS/ITEMS PRESENTED TO PTAC**

A. Curriculum and Training - Coaster/Richardson/Micklash

1. Supervisor Continuing Education and New Supervisor Training Program Status.

In absence of Bill Coaster, Howard (Mac) Dashney shared with PTAC ideas that are being developed for the next cycle of training for persons in charge of school bus operations.

2. Beginning School Bus Driver Safety Education Curriculum.

Tracey Moore, Ingham ISD, was appointed by TAAM to determine what content from the proposed Federal rules need to be added to the Beginning School Bus Driver Safety Education Curriculum for Michigan to meet compliance with the new rules. An overview of this work was presented.

3. Continuing Education School Bus Driver Safety Education Curriculum.

On behalf of Lori Richardson, Kelli Schultz presented an overview of topics that are being planned for the upcoming round of safety training for Michigan school bus drivers.

- B. State and National Issues – (No Items)

## **VII. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PTAC TO CONSIDER**

- A. Curriculum and Training - Micklash

New legislation authorizes the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to approve all training programs required of persons placed in charge of bus operations at a school. PTAC members were sent a copy of the proposed new Beginning Transportation Supervisor Training Manual. Approval of this training program and the current Beginning School Bus Driver Training Program were approved by PTAC as the options for new supervisors to become certified. These training programs will now be forwarded to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for formal approval.

- B. Management and Best Practices – (No items)

- C. State and National Issues – (No items)

## **VIII. ASSIGNMENTS FOR SUBCOMMITTEE WORK**

- A. MDE Initiated

1. To Curriculum and Training – (No items)
2. To Management and Best Practices – (No items)
3. To State and National Issues – (No items)

- B. PTAC Initiated

1. To Curriculum and Training – (No items)
2. To Management and Best Practices – (No items)
3. To State and National Issues – (No items)

## **IX. OTHER ISSUES**

- A. Next meeting is February 6, 2020

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m. by Louis Burgess.