

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE)

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PTAC)

Thursday, February 7, 2019
State Board Room (4th Floor), John A. Hannah Building

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 – 10:15 a.m. – Hannah Building – State Board Room**

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

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon – Hannah Building – State Board Room**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 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 Tony Archambault, Dean Transportation; Sgt. Joe Austin, Michigan State Police; and Tom Bryant, Director of Driver Program Division of Michigan Department of State.

Members in attendance included:

Michigan Department of Education

Louis Burgess
Ken Micklash

State

Carol Reagan (Primary)

State Police

MC Sgt. Danielle Stewart (Primary)

State Police – Office of Highway Safety Planning

Linda Fech (Primary)

Transportation

Rob Pearson (Primary)

Michigan Assn. for Pupil Transportation

Howard (Mac) Dashney

Michigan Assn. of ISD Administrators

Kim Hooper (Primary)

Michigan Assn. of School Bus Officials

Jill Segal (Primary)

Office of Great Start/Head Start Collaboration Office

Kaitlin Ferrick (Primary)

Training Agency Assn. of Michigan

Lori Richardson (Primary)

Representing:

Private Contractors – Dean Transportation

Fred Doelker (Alternate)

Guest

Tony Archambault, Dean Transportation

Sgt. Joe Austin, Michigan State Police (MSP)

Tom Bryant, Michigan Department of State

III. APPROVAL OF October 18, 2018, MEETING MINUTES

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

IV. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Carol Reagan requested to add an item concerning targeted Secretary of State messaging in August. Kim Hooper moved, and Lori Richardson seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.

V. OPENING COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

A. MDE Initiated - Micklash

1. Sgt. Danielle Stewart, Michigan State Police, reported 6,183 busses have been inspected. 9,007 to be completed by August 31, 2019. A new inspector has been assigned to the Upper Peninsula.
2. Sgt. Joe Austin, Michigan State Police, provided an extensive presentation and discussion on the new Federal regulations impacting insulin dependent diabetic CDL license holders. Insulin dependency is no longer a disqualifier from the Federal level. PA 187 will need to be modified to reflect the Federal Regulations during the latter part of this year. Medical examiners have received notification of these new regulations. Ken Micklash will update the MDE website, in coordination with MSP.
3. Tom Bryant, Director of Driver Program Division of Michigan Department of State, provided information concerning the FMCSA Minimum Training Requirements for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators. New training requirements will affect Michigan bus drivers. All states are to comply by February 7, 2020. How will the changes in FMCSA affect Michigan's training programs? Regulations include training in both the areas of theory (safety curriculum issues) and school bus driving skills. Districts and training agencies will need to self-certify in the areas that they will provide training in. The Training Agency Association of Michigan is

planning to amend its beginning school bus driver safety education training programs to meet the new Federal regulations.

4. Mac (Howard) Dashney, Senior Consultant, Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation, presented an overview of recently passed legislation involving pupil transportation. See attached handout of [Pupil Transportation Related Laws for 2018](#).
5. Carol Reagan, Michigan Department of State, reported that digital messages will be run during the month of August in Secretary of State (SOS) satellite offices. She presented a proposed presentation that would be run to emphasize an approved school bus safety message. PTAC members will work with Carol to review current messages and to make recommendations. Ken Micklash will coordinate with MDE, SOS, and MSP to provide information for the presentation.

VI. PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS/ITEMS PRESENTED TO PTAC

A. Curriculum and Training - Coaster/Richardson/Micklash

1. Supervisor Continuing Education – Update

Mac Dashney provided an update in the absence of Bill Coaster. Next supervisor curriculum is being developed. Part of the training curriculum will include a presentation by Thrun’s Law firm.

2. Beginning School Bus Driver Safety Education Curriculum – (No items)
3. Continuing Education School Bus Driver Safety Education Curriculum – (No items)

B. State and National Issues – (No items)

VII. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PTAC TO CONSIDER

A. Curriculum and Training – (No items)

B. Management and Best Practices – Approval of two advisory practices requested. Mac (Howard) Dashney moved, and Lori Richardson seconded to approve the Schools of Choice Transportation Considerations. The motion passed. Jill Segal moved, and Kim Hooper seconded to approve the advisory practice related to Considerations Before Contracting or Using Vehicles with 10 or Fewer for Pupil Transportation. That motion passed.

B. 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

Continued discussion on status of pre-school transportation guidance requested at the last PTAC meeting occurred. Discussion on the matter of transporting children from child care facilities that are not connected with schools resulted. General discussion on the usage of multi-function school activity busses also resulted. Kaitlin Ferrick feels the guidance related to these topics needs to come from the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

3. To State and National Issues

National Congress on School Transportation 2020 Michigan delegation announced. Ken Micklash gave an update on the National Congress on School Transportation. Members that have volunteered to serve as Michigan delegates are Lori Richardson, Donna Korzeniewski, Kevin Doty, Carl Ingram, Kelli Dean or Fred Doelker, Daryl Hofstra and Ken Micklash.

IX. OTHER ISSUES

- A. Next meeting is June 6, 2019.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. by Louis Burgess.