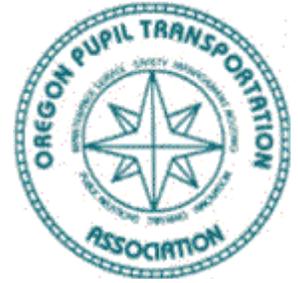


OREGON PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

A non-profit organization



South Willamette Chapter

Date: February 11, 2014
Location: Elmer's Restaurant, Salem
Meeting Called to Order: Cindy Moran, 11:25 AM
Members Present: Shawn Choruby, Dave Goetz, David Farley, Denice Blake, Sandi Miller, Cindy Moran, Wilbur Starr, Scott Bohl, Craig Pruitt, David Schetky, Chase Schetky, LD Ellison, Troy Hageman, Chris Ellison, William Swift, Paul Ulloa, Rich Sanner, Michael Shields, Kevin Baker, Deborah Maskal, Kim Crabtree, David Jorgenson

Previous Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the January meeting. Scott Bohl's phone number was incorrect, it should be 503-947-5737. A motion was made by David Farley to accept the minutes with the correction, seconded by Wilbur Starr, approved.

Financial Report:

Beginning Balance:	\$34,574.82
Income	\$ 321.35
Expenses	\$ 4,360.89
Ending Balance:	\$30,535.28

Included in the expenses are the lunches from the 2013 Winter Workshop, the SW OPTA printer and cart, supplies for trinket sales, and payments to Allen Bean for the bullying DVD. A motion was made by Chris Ellison to approve the financial report, seconded by Denice Blake, approved.

Committee Reports

State Board: Meeting was on January 23 in Portland. Ryan Hahn will be chairing state poster contest. Pemco Insurance has been added as an OPTA sponsor. Next meeting is 3/20 in Bend. Chris Ellison has been receiving solicitations for hosting/taking over the OPTA website-this will not be happening. TJ talked about verification for drug/alcohol testing going electronic-it is a possibility. Fee increases for summer conference have approved. The registration has increased \$20 and the late fee has been increased by \$40. Bend has approached Tim O'Connell to be the head judge for the state safety exercise. Registration fees for the state exercise will be increased from \$10 to \$15. Cindy Moran is chair for the state exercise. Nomination forms will be going out soon-looking for a president-elect and directors at large. Schetky will be sponsoring the golden wrench award. Online registration for winter workshop/safety exercise is still probably a year away.

- ODE Report: No updates.
- Poster Contest: No updates. David J will make sure that Denise Balch gets in contact with Ryan Hahn to coordinate the SW OPTA contest with the state contest. Flyers should be available on the website soon.
- Winter Workshop: February 22, 2014 at Springfield HS. Cindy Moran will chair. The main topic will be “Love and Logic”, with additional break-out sessions. Participants will need to select their sessions when they register for the workshop.
- The break-out sessions will be:
1. Love & Logic: Train the Trainer
 2. Triggers-Positive Approach to Student Management (2 session class)
 3. Medical Guidance Regarding BMI
 4. Love & Logic: Positive Approach to Special Needs
- About 500 have registered at this point. Late registration fees have not been assessed due to weather issues. Chris will be waiting a bit longer to order donuts/beverages as a result. Speaker fees and costs are currently at \$5650. Schetky and Western Bus are contributing \$200 each for refreshments, and Brattain is contributing \$300 towards printing of materials. Springfield SD transportation is contributing \$0.25 per lunch to help cover costs. Craig will not be at the workshop, but Scott and TJ should have things under control.
- Safety Exercise: SW OPTA regional safety exercise will be May 17, 2014, in Grants Pass. David Farley will coordinate. Matt Kutcher will be the head judge. Now that fees have been finalized, Chris can post information to the website (he will post it after the Winter Workshop). David has lined up buses from the Grants Pass area for the event. David is still working on the food situation. The NW Safety Exercise will be in Astoria at the old airport.
- Sunshine: None at this time.
- Education: No updates. David Jorgenson will work with Chris Ellison and David Farley to set up a mechanic/technician forum sometime in the spring.
- Membership: No updates.
- Old Business: There was discussion on transportation for students attending day treatment centers. In most cases, these students will need to be transported. A handout was provided that summarizes HB 2501 and how it relates to these students (see attached).
- New Business: None.
- Open Discussion: There was a debriefing from the securement forum that was held after the January meeting. It went well, but had a small turnout. A request was made that the videos shown during the forum be made available to districts via email. A discussion was

had about the content of the monthly meetings, and how it may be deterring people from coming each month.

We have received feedback that too much time is spent on planning OPTA activities (workshops, safety exercises, etc.) and not enough is spent on specific transportation issues. It seems that these meetings are the only times that we can work through issues that are specific to these events. Denice Blake raised the idea that we could have a specific transportation topic each month and spend part of the meetings discussing these issues.

Sandi Miller raised a question about foster students and their options for transportation as provided under McKinney-Vento. Craig Pruitt has provided a handout from ODE that helps clarify these scenarios (see attached).

A question was raised about PayPal-can an account be set up for purchasing goods (such as items for trinket sales). It would be safer than giving extra people access to the OPTA credit card.

For the Good-of-the-Order

Future Meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>
March 11, 2014 Tuesday	Hole-in-the-Wall BBQ, Springfield/11:00 AM	Safety Exercise
April 8, 2014 Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany/11:00 AM	Safety Exercise/Nominate New Officers
May 9, 2014 Friday	Bend	Safety Exercise/Elect Officers
June 16, 2014	Bend/4:00 PM	Summer Conference

Meeting Adjourned: 12:30 PM

Next Meeting Date: March 11, 2014

Next Meeting Location: Cascade Grill, Albany

Summary of HB2501 as it relates to transportation of students to day treatment facilities

What is HB 2501?

House Bill 2501 is a bill that reestablishes the small school district supplement fund. It extends, by five years, grants distributed to small school districts through the State School Fund. It directs the Department of Education to transfer \$2.5 million to the fund for purpose of grants to small school districts.

According to the numbered memo sent out by Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Learning it also amends ORS 343.961 with language to require school districts to provide transportation services to the eligible day treatment program where the student is receiving services:

(4) The school district where the student is a resident is responsible for providing transportation to a student enrolled in an eligible day treatment program. Transportation must be provided by the school district where the student is a resident each day the student is scheduled to receive services from the eligible day treatment program.

It was effective August 14, 2013.

What about McKinney-Vento?

McKinney-Vento does not apply when it is a parent placement into a private program. It does however still apply if the student has been placed into the program by the district. If a homeless student is attending a qualified day treatment program because of parent placement HB2501 still applies, it just shifts the transportation responsibility entirely onto the resident district instead of the 50/50 split of McKinney-Vento.

A couple of cases and their outcomes:

1. Student A is a homeless student attending a day treatment program in a different city than the resident city. The parent placed the student in the program instead of district offered services. McKinney-Vento does not apply because of the placement scenario. Under HB 2501 the resident district provides transportation. Should the student's housing move into another district the new district would be responsible for transportation.
2. Student B is a pre-school student attending a day treatment program in a different city than the resident city. The student was not qualified for early intervention services. The resident district did not provide transportation under HB 2501 because the student was not being transported for educational purposes. However, if the student was receiving education early intervention services the resident district must provide transportation.

In summary:

It appears that in most cases, regardless of who places a student in a qualified day treatment facility, the resident district will be responsible for transportation. There seems to be no guidelines on how far a district must transport to accommodate the placement. You may have to do some investigation, should you come across a transportation request for these students.

Who to call:

If you have questions regarding HB 2501 you may contact:

Mitch Kruska, Director
Education Programs, Secondary Transition & Assessment
Oregon Department of Education
Office of Learning / Student Services Unit
503-947-5634 / mitch.kruska@state.or.us

GUIDANCE: McKinney-Vento Eligibility of “Students Awaiting Foster Care Placement”

December 2011
Dona Bolt – OR Dept. of Education

One of the categories of eligibility for the McKinney-Vento Act, Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program, applies to “students awaiting foster care placement.”

According to the U.S Department of Education Guidance, students “who are awaiting foster care placement” may be considered homeless. Students who have been placed in foster care by a state agency are not considered homeless,

Similar to homeless students, *foster students have the right to remain in their school of origin if feasible*, but their inter-district school transportation is not required to be provided through the district’s Homeless Student Program at this time. The district may decide to coordinate transportation of foster students using the same staff (e.g. the Homeless Student Liaison), but the cost of the transportation of foster students to their school of origin is not considered to be an allowable expenditure of McKinney-Vento Homeless Education subgrant funds, unless the student is “at-risk” of homelessness. Title IA set-asides are not allowed for use for regular school day transportation for either homeless or foster students.

If a Child Welfare judge has determined that a foster student must attend a particular school, then the Child Welfare agency is responsible for providing or paying for the transportation, or working out an agreement with the school district that is mutually satisfactory. The applicable parts of the Oregon Revised Statute are transcribed here:

ORS 339.133

“(4) Children placed by public or private agencies who are living in licensed, certified or approved substitute care programs shall be considered resident in the school district in which they reside because of placement by a public or private agency.”

“(4)B[b] The public agency that has placed the child shall be responsible for providing the child with transportation to and from school when the need for transportation is due to the placement by the agency.”

“[c] Paragraph (b) of this subsection applies only to a public agency for which funds have been designated for the specific purpose of providing a child with transportation to and from school under this subsection.”

School districts are encouraged to work with local DHS foster care caseworkers on school placement and transportation needs of foster students, particularly given their right to attend their school of origin.

The McKinney-Vento Act's Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program, and the Fostering Connections Act, are undergoing amendments with reauthorization which may change the definitions and provisions for both homeless and foster care students in the future. Until then, all efforts to keep mobile students in one school for the entire school year are encouraged, using the resources that area available locally, on a case-by-case basis.

For more information, contact the State Homeless Education Coordinator or the Title I-D Coordinator at the Oregon Department of Education, 503-947-5600.