

Fwd: Subscription and Courtesy Busing

Sai Bhargavi Akiri [REDACTED]

Wed 10/11/2023 7:43 PM

To: BHCW TEAM <team@bhcw.io>

📎 1 attachments (100 KB)

DRTRS Summary Report 22-23.pdf;

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sai Bhargavi Akiri [REDACTED]

Date: September 22, 2023 at 12:59:32 PM EDT

To: Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>, Joy Young <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>, Gale Bradford <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>, Jordan Hyman <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>, Pamela Stanley <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>, Robert Cianciulli <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Dipti Khanna <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Foregger <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>, agiordano@bhpsnj.org, Ksheehan@bhpsnj.org, rsmith@bhpsnj.org, "Seminerio, Dr. Christine" <cseminerio@bhpsnj.org>

Cc: "Palmieri, Daryl" <daryl.palmieri@doe.nj.gov>, Jamar.Purnsley@doe.nj.gov, "Boney, Timothy" <Timothy.Boney@doe.nj.gov>, comptrollertips@osc.nj.gov

Subject: Fwd: Subscription and Courtesy Busing

To the Board, Dr.Varley and Mr.Smith,

I am awaiting a response to my questions from the email dated **June 22, 2023** and **July 31, 2023** (see below). Can you please tell me when I can expect an answer, especially on the discrepancy between ***courtesy busing numbers submitted to the state Department of Education (337) and those quoted during the budget planning process (200) in March and April 2023?***

Can you also provide **the latest numbers on busing for the school year 2023-24 by each school and category of busing (Subscription, Courtesy, and mandated)?**

The data submitted by the Berkeley Heights school district to the NJ State Department of Education is attached, which shows ***337 courtesy busing students***. These numbers were certified by Kelly Sheehan to the NJ State Department of Education in November 2022.

Thank you,
Sai Bhargavi

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sai Bhargavi Akiri [REDACTED]
Date: July 31, 2023 at 12:26:10 AM EDT
To: Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>, Joy Young <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>, Gale Bradford <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Dipti Khanna <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>, Jordan Hyman <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>, Pamela Stanley <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>, Robert Cianciulli <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Foregger <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>, "Dr. Melissa Varley" <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>, Julie Kot <jkot@bhpsnj.org>
Cc: David Greer <dgreer@bhpsnj.org>, "Palmieri, Daryl" <daryl.palmieri@doe.nj.gov>, Jamar.Purnsley@doe.nj.gov, "Boney, Timothy" <Timothy.Boney@doe.nj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Subscription and Courtesy Busing

To the Board, Dr.Varley and Julie,

I am awaiting the response to my questions from the email dated **June 22, 2023** (see below). Can you please tell me when I can expect an answer, especially on the discrepancy between ***courtesy busing numbers submitted to the state Department of Education (337) and those quoted during the budget planning process (200) in March and April 2023?***

The data submitted by the Berkeley Heights school district to the NJ State Department of Education is attached, which shows ***337 courtesy busing students***. These numbers were certified by Kelly Sheehan to the NJ State Department of Education in November 2022.

Thank you,
Sai Bhargavi

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sai Bhargavi Akiri [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 2:44 PM
Subject: Subscription and Courtesy Busing
To: Angela Penna <apenna@bhpsnj.org>, Joy Young <jyoung@bhpsnj.org>, Gale Bradford <gbradford@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Dipti Khanna <dkhanna@bhpsnj.org>, BOE Foregger <tforegger@bhpsnj.org>, Jordan Hyman <jhyman@bhpsnj.org>, Robert Cianciulli <rcianciulli@bhpsnj.org>, Pamela Stanley <pstanley@bhpsnj.org>, Julie Kot <jkot@bhpsnj.org>, Dr. Melissa Varley <mvarley@bhpsnj.org>
Cc: David Greer <dgreer@bhpsnj.org>, Marybeth Kopacz <mkopacz@bhpsnj.org>, Palmieri, Daryl <daryl.palmieri@doe.nj.gov>, <Jamar.purnsley@doe.nj.gov>, Boney, Timothy <Timothy.Boney@doe.nj.gov>

Good Afternoon,

Since busing was one of the key issues highlighted during the 2023-24 budget planning process, and the focus on equity of busing for all students, I wanted to follow up on the topic of courtesy and subscription busing.

During the budget process, we heard Pamela Stanley share some numbers for courtesy busing at the [March 30, 2022 board meeting - 200 students](#) of which 144 students go to GL.

The data submitted by the Berkeley Heights school district to the NJ State Department of Education is attached, which shows **337 courtesy busing students**. I am seeking to understand the discrepancy between the numbers sent to the State Department of Education and those quoted during the budget planning process in March 2023.

@Julie and Dr. Varley - Can you please clarify the total number of courtesy, qualified/eligible, and subscription busing students in BHPS? For clarity, qualified/eligible means those that live either beyond 2 miles or 2.5 miles in the district and hence qualify for busing without cost.

Thank you,
Sai Bhargavi

March 30, 2023, BOE Meeting - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HZCwosJR0c>

District Report of Transported Resident Students New Jersey Department of Education

YEAR: 2022 - 2023

COUNTY: 39 - UNION

DISTRICT: 0310 - BERKELEY HEIGHTS TWP

CREATED: 03/23/23

A Eligible REGULAR and In-District Special Education Students without Special Transportation Needs		
1	Students - Grade PK (includes Public, Charter, and Early Childhood Community Provider ECCP)	0
2	Public School Students Excluding VOC Students (Includes Choice School Students who are Transported or Paid AIL)	451
3	Vocational School Students	80
4	Transported Charter School Students	0
5	AIL Charter School Students	0
6	Transported Non-Public and Other School Students	0
7	AIL Non-Public and Other School Students	161
8	Special Education Public School Students	91
9	Special Education Charter School Students	0
10	Private School for Students with Disabilities and Other School Students	0
11	Total Students	783
12	Total Mileage	3614.4
13	Average Home to School Mileage	4.6

**District Report of Transported Resident Students
New Jersey Department of Education**

YEAR: 2022 - 2023

COUNTY: 39 - UNION

DISTRICT: 0310 - BERKELEY HEIGHTS TWP

CREATED: 03/23/23

A Eligible REGULAR and In-District Special Education Students without Special Transportation Needs		
14	Total Mileage Excluding Grade PK	3614.4
15	Average Home to School Mileage Excluding Grade PK	4.6

B Eligible SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS with Special Transportation Needs and Out-of-District Special Education Students without Special Transportation Needs		
1	Public School Students with Special Transportation Needs	23
2	Charter School Students with Special Transportation Needs	0
3	Private School for Students with Disabilities with Special Transportation Needs	12
4	Total Special Education Students with Special Transportation Needs	35
5	Total Mileage for Special Education Students with Special Transportation Needs	142
6	Out-of-District Public School Students without Special Transportation Needs	0
7	Out-of-District Charter School Students without Special Transportation Needs	0
8	Out-of-District Private School for Students with Disabilities without Special Transportation Needs	0
9	Total Out-of-District Special Education Students without Special Transportation Needs	0
10	Total Mileage for Out-of-District Special Ed. Students without Special Transportation Needs	0
11	Total Special Education Students	35
12	Total Special Education Mileage	142
13	Average Home to School Mileage	4.1

C Courtesy Students		
1	Total Elementary School Students	219
2	Total Elementary School Student Mileage	351.1
3	Total Secondary School Students	118
4	Total Secondary School Student Mileage	247
5	Total Courtesy Students	337
6	Total Courtesy Student Mileage	598.1
7	Average Home to School Mileage	1.8

D Nonpublic School Students over 20 miles		
1	Transported Nonpublic School Students 20.1-30 Miles	0
2	Transported Nonpublic School Students > 30 Miles	0
3	ALL Nonpublic School Students 20.1-30 Miles	0
4	ALL Nonpublic School Students > 30	0
5	Total Mileage	0

District Profile	
Name of routing vendor or "NONE" for none:	Orbit Software
The number of resident subscription students you reported being transported is:	307
Does your district have a subscription busing program for nonresident students? (Y/N):	N
If yes, how many nonresident students do you transport?	.
The number of resident students who are receiving Non-Mandated transportation and would be required to walk to and from school along a route designated as a hazardous route by the local school district (pursuant to NJSA 18A:39-1.5):	

TOTALS	
Total number of students reported in prior year:	1225
Total number of students reported this year:	1155