My assignment as asked by the Haverhill Public School Administration was to observe and make recommendations regarding the operation of Haverhill’s Special Education Transportation Division.

My focus was to review the department from an operational perspective as well as the vehicles used (and associated equipment) to transport Haverhill’s Special Education students.

I have over 20 years’ experience in the Special Education Transportation area.

- 10 years as the Transportation Administrator/Manager (CASE Collaborative) overseeing 12 school district’s Special Education transportation needs. Employing 107 full time drivers.

- Over 10 years as the owner of a private company transporting Special Education students.
These older vehicles are costing a substantial amount in repair and maintenance costs.

7 vehicles have over 200,000 miles, with 2 of them over 250,000 miles.

12 vehicles are 10+ years old, with 4 of them over 14 years old.

For example:

Some of these vehicles are very old and in poor physical shape.

Presently there are 21 in-town vehicles used on daily routes to transport Havemilli Special Education students.

Vehicles
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<th>Capacity</th>
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**Fleet 2015/2016**
TD regulations.

be equipped to transport up to 8 students (maximum allowed by MIA to the once popular Ford E series (which Ford no longer makes). It can replace 2016 Ford Transit approximate cost $37,000. This vehicle replaces program. Not recommended for in-town routes could prove to be more costly should more students attend the same but only has the capacity to carry 5 children. This limited capacity 2016 Dodge Caravan approximate cost $26,000. This is a good vehicle purchased.

Replacement cost can vary depending on the type of vehicle.

these older vehicles this year and continue to replace yearly.

My recommendation is to update the fleet by replacing several of
car seat (3-5 years old).

The ICES (Integrated Child Seat) seating. This seat can be used by older children and when folded out can accommodate the children that require a booster. The Ford that is not available in the Dodge. My reasons are not only the capacity but because there is a feature available in the Ford that is not available in the Dodge.

My recommendation would be to purchase the Ford Transit.
I highly recommend this seating for the following reasons.

Child seats have an expiration date.

Each day a Child Car seat must be properly fitted in the vehicle. (Twice a day)

If the Child Car seat has ever been in an accident it is suggested not to use. If the parents supply the child seat you may never know that this has occurred.


- Has been in a moderate or severe crash
- Not use this infant carrier and base if it is older than six years or
- To prevent injury due to deterioration or hidden damage, do

  Britax:

  Infant restraint that you cannot see:

  ACCIDENT OF ANY KIND. An accident can cause damage to the
  REPLACE THE INFANT RESTRAINT AND BASE AFTER AN

  Greco:

  Accident. It must be replaced:

  DO NOT use this child restraint if it has been involved in an

  Evenflo:

  Car Seat Manufacturers
offsetting some of this new expense.

By replacing the aging fleet you will see a reduction in repair/maintenance cost.

The replacement cost for this vehicle is approximately $37,000 if financed over 6 years payments.
Additional items for serious consideration.

- GPS
- Audio/Video system
- Updated two-way radio communication
time a driver is working.

GPS also allows you to monitor actual

• Engine diagnostics (check engine light)
• Location * Speed * History

Most of today's GPS systems allow you

GPS -- Global Positioning System
The location feature pinpoints within a few yards of where the vehicle actually is and does so every 10 to 15 seconds.
Using cameras facing both in and out the front windshield can protect observed.

- A driver tailgating or not stopping for a traffic light can be verified.
- A student makes a claim that something occurred while on the van problem can be captured.
- Students that are bullied or the student that is being the behavior.

School districts. It is a tool to protect the student as well as the driver.

Audio/Video System
It overwrites compared to only weeks of capacity with the Rosco.

I have experience with both "Sean Mobile Surveillance" as well as a "Rosco" Audio Video system. I recommend the Sean for its durability and viewing software. Sean also has a much larger hard drive for months of history before.

The cost of a system is approximately $7,200 which includes 3 cameras.
"Face blur" ability to protect confidentiality
It also can be busy with others communicating on the same system (Copporla Bus Co.).

Also anyone who is a radio (police scanning) buff (ham compromised.

Thus the student's confidentiality may be used. Thus the student's confidentiality may be compromised.

Thus the conversation can hear the conversation. The conversation each and every one of the other drivers as well as a private.

When a driver and the office dispatcher are on the radio, can be busy with others on the same system.

The system that is presently being used for communicating.

Two-Way Radio Communication
cost for the service is about $23.00 per month. After the 5 year equipment payment plan your monthly vehicle per month. This includes all equipment and monthly vehicle per month. If financed, the cost of this system would be about $35,00 per month which could be financed over a 5 year period.

Industrial Communications can set up a program (lease to buy) Total equipment cost for a 25 radio system is about $15,000.00 with one unit at a time.

It uses a private encrypted frequency that allows communication prominently use but with a feature that protects student confidentiality. Introduced to a Motorola two-way system, it is similar to the one you approximately $40 per vehicle per month. Recently I was (Nextel or Verizon) service. Today the Verizon service is

Over the past 10 years I have been using a „Direct Connect”
When this takes place one of these two must leave

the office to fill in on the route.

Monitor, one of these two may be needed as a spare driver or

During my time there I learned that at any given time

schools,

communications with drivers, monitors, parents and

professional job of handling issues and general

Transportation Office. The present staff (of two) do a

Office Support/Office Staff
McKinney-Vento students.

This department is also providing and transporting for many

(approx. 6,000) Have children students that are transported by school

Essentially this office is responsible in one way or another for all

Also the 26-Crossing Guards that are located throughout the city.

out-of-district Special Education placements.

1-2 other Special Ed. Vendors which are contracted to transport

1-4 in-town Special Ed. Routes contracted to NRT transportation.

3-6 Regular Ed. Bus routes provided by Coppola Busing.

Your school busing needs.

overseeing the daily operation and communication to all your of

in-town Special Education routes but are an important part of

Your Transportation office not only provides support to your 21
would be still under $20,000 per year.
If you have office staffing needs during summer school programs the cost
your budget by about $16,200 per school year (based on 180 day year).
Hiring someone to fill these 6 hours at $15.00 per hour would increase
hours of 7:00am - 9:00am and 2:00pm - 6:00pm
and coverage to insure an effective operation would be between the
morning and mid to late afternoon.
The peak hours of operation for your transportation department are early
I recommend that there be at least 2 office personnel on duty at all times
ignored.
general public and other drivers that may need help are most likely being
dispatched to go to the scene to assist. While all this is going on the
parents, and school, if students are ok another vehicle should be
dispatcher should be contacting police, ambulance if needed, towing,
just damage enough to the vehicle to need help. At this time the
Example:
Concern
have monitors, and another 5 have a nurse aboard.

Example: The CASE Collaborative presently has 107 daily routes. 10 of them
reviewed to determine if a monitor is needed to insure a safe ride.

Suggest that all Special Education students IEP’s (transportation plan) be
a function of the IEP team adding a monitor when it really isn’t necessary.

I cannot imagine that all of your routes need a monitor. I’m guessing that this is
monitored during transportation.

Nurse may be necessary when a student’s medical issues need to be
issue or a seizure prone student that needs to be watched at all times. Also a
understand sometimes there is a need for a monitor. Such as a behavior
well as on all of your out-of-district (vendor hired) routes.

Presently you have a “school bus monitor” on each of your in-town routes as

Cost savings via staff reduction:
Special Routing software is not necessary.

Have all its 21 in-town routes are easily managed by "hand picked" Routing.

Special Ed is Routing is ever changing.

at a bus stop.

For the most part Special Ed Routing is more involved than just picking up

are no sidewalks or crossing a busy street.

cannot be expected to catch the bus a 100 yards down the road when there

Also with its geo-coding it is not always accurate. Example a 1st grader

or ½ day kindergarten.

used for midday dismissal & arrival combination Routing such as preschool

At the same time it has limitations even with regular busing. It cannot be

Transformer is that is suited for regular ed busing but not so for special ed.

This is being paid to Transformer (Routing software). My experience with

Presently Have all its paying a yearly service fee of over $3,000.00

Routing Software Savings
Savings of $3,000 per year

Cancel Translator Service

Savings if it is cut by 50% would be over $100,000 in salary

Decrease use of Monitors

Update Two-Way Communication

Cost approximately $1,200 per vehicle

Audio/Video Monitoring in Vehicles

Cost (to outfit your present 21 vehicles) under $7,000 per year

Add GPS

Minus the savings of repairing an older fleet.

Cost is depends on how many vehicles you purchase

Update Fleet

Cost not more than $20,000 per year

Increase Office Support

Recommendations:
ON 200,000 miles
years we will have an additional 5 vans
it is expected that within the next two
average miles driven is 15,366 per year
average vehicle is 153,666 miles
7 of which have OVER 200K miles

10 vans with over 150K miles
Current Vehicle Mileage

Average Vehicle Repair cost $4000 per year
This is the equivalent of 4 new vehicles
Repair Cost $157,516
April 2014 - January 2016

Radio Service $24 per month
GPS $25 per veh per month
Vehicle Update

Including cameras and radars
Total for one new van (approx) $38,000

Recent Repairs
Current Cost per Van