



Transportation



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TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation budget includes our Transportation Coordinator and bus drivers for our special education fleet of SUV's. We currently have 20 regular buses, with four spare/field trip buses, two special education/pre-k wheelchair capable buses, and four special education SUV's.

Included in the transportation budget is an increase in the cost of fuel. The Town currently locked its rate at \$2.14 per gallon through the end of Fiscal Year 2020 for diesel and \$1.73 for gasoline.

Every student in the Weston Public Schools is offered bus transportation and assigned to a bus; however, ridership is approximately 63% of the total student population. Ridership at Hurlbutt and Weston Intermediate School is approximately 80% and at Weston Middle School and Weston High School approximately 52%. While ridership is 63% of the student population, our buses are occupied at 93% capacity as we develop routes to maximize space with the least amount of buses needed while ensuring safe and timely ridership for our students. When the district changed from a three-tier route (WHS and WMS had separate routes) the district reduced two buses, leaving 20 buses, which are essential for maintaining our two tier bussing schedule each year.

School	AM First Bus Stop	AM School Start	PM School End	PM Last Student Drop
WHS	6:50	7:45	2:30	3:10
WMS	6:50	7:45	2:30	3:10
WIS	7:45	8:30	3:15	4:10
HES	7:45	8:30	3:15	4:10

Every year before school begins the district utilizes a software program, Transfinder, to help plan its bus routes in the most efficient way, which allows for the district to provide the shortest routes possible for students and allows the district to not expand its fleet of buses. Each route is carefully planned, looking at those students who take the bus, drive to school, or are dropped off to ensure we have the right sized fleet and can meet school start times. This ensures the district does not have excess capacity in its fleet, thus saving the district significant resources. Each bus costs the district approximately \$65,000.

As the district explores changing school start/end times, it is important to consider the implications for bus transportation. If changes to school start/end times alter bus ridership, we may require additional buses based on capacity and routes. Due to budget constraints, we have not planned for additional buses in the proposed FY 20 budget. We will have to consider this limitation as we proceed with exploring any changes to school start/end times.

Transportation
Weston Public Schools, Weston, CT

2018-2019 Actual				2019-2020 Projected			
Operating Budget FTE	Other Sources FTE	Total FTE	Program	Operating Budget FTE	Other Sources FTE	Total FTE	Change
Non Certified Staff							
1.00	0.00	1.00	Transportation Coordinator	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
1.05	0.00	1.05	Drivers	1.05	0.00	1.05	0.00
2.05	0.00	2.05		2.05	0.00	2.05	0.00