Transportation Readiness

SEPTEMBER 2017

Personal Attention

- Scouting Van on every street with turnarounds and wrote down potential turn around locations
- ▶ Drove a full size bus and tried turning around at each location
- ► Made note of size of bus needed to turn around safely

Route Development

- Start with Granville
 - Reassign all GVS students to PMS/WS school
 - Start drawing and mapping out routes from scratch
 - Realized based on bell times between all 3 schools shuttle buses would be needed
 - Add 2 shuttle buses each for A.M. SRS & PMS and 1 shuttle bus each for P.M. PMS & WS
 - Reassign 3 Southwick drivers to allow for the shuttles
- Assigned Granville children to buses on newly developed routes and looked at load times (time on bus)
 - ▶ Realign routes/students to minimize load time
- Obtain permission to set up Granville Town Hall as a transfer point
 - Developed transfer bus and shuttle bus system in Versatrans and set up transfer point at GTH
 - ▶ Worked to ensure transfer buses and shuttle buses arrive at same time
- Did dry runs comparing Versatrans to actual timing
- Made changes as necessary

Overview of Granville Routes

- Met with the Superintendent and the Director of Finance & Operations separately to go over Granville routes before finalizing
 - Noted need for shuttle buses
 - Noted 4 stops affected by being short a mid size bus
 - ▶ 2 SRS stops affecting 4 students AM only
 - ▶ 2 PMS stops affecting 3 students AM and PM

Total of 4 stops affected per day

(since our meeting a family moved in with 2 children who are affected at one of these stops- 1 SRS and 1 PMS stop. They are included in the totals above)

Continued Route Development

- Worked on Tolland Routes
 - Made adjustments to routes based on load time
 - ▶ Added a second H.S. route
 - ▶ Set up transfers @ GTH for PMS bus
- Inputted new students, kindergarteners, day care changes, school choice
- Worked on Southwick Routes
 - ▶ Reassigned students based on capacities and timing
- Met with all drivers and handed out routes and had drivers make corrections.

Transfer Preparation

- Held special driver meeting
- Explained and reviewed new routes, turnarounds, transfer procedures
- Went over transfer reference sheets
- Did dry run to GTH with drivers and all buses involved in transfers and shuttles
- Planned placement of shuttle buses and transfer buses with drivers
- Set amber lights as signal for drivers to convey transfer is going to take place
- Door to door transfer- one shuttle bus at a time
- All drivers have list of students with bus numbers
- Organized and practiced

Need for Transfers

- Bell times between schools do not allow for each bus to drop off and be back to pick up next group of students to meet the bell at the next school
 - ► The time between SRS and GVS in the morning was 7:15-8:35- 1 hr 20 minutes (earliest to latest)
 - ► Afternoon was SRS and GVS 2:15-3:05 45 min (earliest to latest) we had 1 bus unable to get to GVS until 3:10
 - ► Mornings now-SRS and PMS 7:15-8:15-1 hr. (earliest to latest) PMS and WS 8:15-9:00-45 min (earliest to latest)
 - ► Afternoons now-SRS and PMS 2:15-2:50 35 min (earliest to latest) PMS and WS 2:50-3:25-35 min (earliest to latest)
- ► Travel time from Southwick to Granville is 20 minutes to GTH. That does not leave enough time left to get the next group of students picked up or dropped off and the bus back down to the next school before the bell time without transfers and shuttles.
- Minimize bus rides for students
- Meet bus load criteria to be eligible for reimbursement

When do we need transfers

a.m

> SRS - 46 students-Bus 41 transfers 29 to Bus 28

Bus 24 transfers 5 Toll to Bus 23

Bus 27 Transfers 12 to Bus 23

PMS -47 students-Bus 24 Transfers 12 Toll to Bus 28

Bus 27 Transfers 17 to Bus 28

Bus 41 Transfers 18 to Bus 31

► WS - 0 students

<u>p.m.</u>

- ► SRS 0 students
- ▶ PMS 28 students- Bus 28 Transfers 9 to Bus 27

Bus 28 Transfers 19 to Bus 41

0 Toll transfer

▶ WS - 17 students- Bus 4 Transfers 12 to Bus 27

Bus 4 Transfers 5 Toll to Bus 31

Note - We do a.m. and p.m. transfers for WTA and CTEC also

Is Granville's "home to stop" distance different?

- Several comparable stops in the District
 - ▶ Wildwood Beetle Rd Tolland- .87 m
 - ► Landsend -Tolland- .59 m
 - Reservoir Rd .26 m Southwick

Are Transfers New?

- ▶ This District has been doing transfers when needed in all 3 Towns for many years
 - Westfield Technical Academy and Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative routes
 - ▶ Tolland routes
 - ► Granville before the merge with Southwick for HS routes

Concerns and Action taken

- Concern Why are students transferring?
 - Action Letter home to explain why transfers are needed and how they are executed
 - ▶ Next year bus assignment letters will include transfer information
- Concern Corner stops due to wrong size bus
 - Action Will do another site visit to one new location that was a late enrollment
 - ▶ Will purchase bus size needed to service stops with small turnarounds when possible



