



# Douglas Public Schools

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## School Committee Agenda Item Summary

**Date:** 10/6/2021  
**Prepared By:** Tara Sobaleski, Director of Special Education & Student Support Services  
**Reviewed By:** Paul Vieira, Superintendent of Schools  
**Subject:** **Bus Monitor Positions**

### **Background**

Currently, the district contracts with Tellstone for two specialized transportation vehicles for both the DMS/DHS morning and afternoon routes and the DPS/DES morning and afternoon routes. Each route is approximately one hour from departure from the school until the return to the school. There is also a midday route for preschoolers that averages ½ hour. Historically, paraprofessionals and ABAs have covered the routes at their hourly rate. When paraprofessionals and ABAs have been unavailable, administrators have spent up to two hours per day on specialized transportation to remain in compliance.

### **Discussion/Analysis**

Bus monitors are required on both specialized transportation vehicles each route to maintain compliance with student IEPs and to meet the transportation needs of students with disabilities in the district who are unable to take regular transportation due to the nature and severity of their disabilities.

The current paraprofessional and ABA hourly rates range from \$13.02-\$22.54/hr. On average, the cost to maintain compliance with bus monitors on specialized transportation ranges between \$17.00-\$18.00/hr depending on the staff member serving as the monitor on any given day. Monitors change from day to day, as the hours of the bus monitor are outside of the paraprofessional and ABA school day. There are a total of 22.5 hours per week that require the district to compensate bus monitors.

The creation of a “Bus Monitor” position within the district will allow the district to post for the specific position and obtain consistent monitors each day and reduce the amount of administrator time spent scheduling and covering bus monitor duties.

### **Financial Impact**

The financial impact of adding this position will not result in additional spending. On average, the hourly rate of the current staff members serving as bus monitors on specialized transportation ranges between \$17.00-\$18.00/hr (depending on the staff member serving as the monitor on any given day). The proposed rate for bus monitors is \$15.00/hr.

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## **Recommendation**

If the School Committee is in agreement, the following motion is recommended for approval:

***MOVE to approve the position of Bus Monitor and the proposed job description. The hourly rate for FY 2022 will be \$15.00 per hour. The days and hours per school day will be on an “as needed” basis.***

## **Attachments**

1. Bus monitor job description.

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