



BusTracks™

Transportation Management Services

Consulting Services and Analysis

..... solutions for your school



Advanced Management Software, LLC
out of the box software solutions.



Consulting Services and Route Analysis

Student Transportation Consulting Services

Whether a school district is opening new schools, changing grade configurations, closing a school, or requires a review of bus routes to ensure efficiency, the following consulting services can help save money, reduce complications, and get students on the right buses in a quick, efficient manner.

School Boundary Analysis

Opening or closing schools in a district is always an emotional time for students, parents, and administrators. The professionals behind BusTracks and Student Transportation Consulting Services understand this and offer a multi-step approach to determining new school boundaries.

The first step is to carefully listen to school board, administration, transportation, and parent representatives to clearly define the issues and the objectives of the redistrict analysis, including:

- ▶ Future growth areas
- ▶ Declining population areas
- ▶ Current student assignments
- ▶ Neighborhoods
- ▶ Current bus stop locations
- ▶ Safe and efficient bus runs

Next, current student addresses are plotted on a map to develop the base case from which to evaluate all subsequent changes. From this, existing school boundary lines are clearly displayed. After projecting student address locations for the new school year, alternate scenarios are developed. The analysis displays revised school boundary lines and creates a summary list of any students affected by change. All data and graphics are displayed in a clear, easy-to-understand manner using Microsoft Office products and DELORME nationwide maps.

Finally, after the new boundary lines are finalized, we work closely with the school transportation management team to help define new or alternate bus runs for the current school configuration.

Route Management

Our consulting services also offer assistance for the busy transportation manager by providing a fresh set of eyes to review daily route management. With each school district, we clearly define the current transportation policy in writing to determine the objectives of a routing analysis. We never assume that all routes need to change. This saves the district money by focusing on only those routes in question.

The current, selected runs are reviewed and a base case from which to evaluate all subsequent changes is developed. Based on the objectives of the analysis, alternate scenarios are presented, including the changes in run costs and service levels.

We utilize the BusTracks Transportation Management System for all analysis. This proven and dynamic system offers the most flexibility for multiple "what-if" scenarios, ensuring that the final scenario will be the most cost-effective, while providing maximum safety and service.

For more information, call **1-800-303-2921** or visit **BusTracks.com**

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Case Study

A medium-sized school district in Lancaster County underwent a major change to its grade configuration: The district was completing a new intermediate school building for grades 4-6 and changing its current elementary schools from grades K-5 to grades K-3. The middle/high school, meanwhile, was shifting from grades 6-12 to grades 7-12. In addition, one elementary school underwent major reconstruction for the 2011-2012 school year and would not return to full capacity until 2012-2013.

Both a school boundary and route analysis were required for these major grade changes. Nine different school boundary options were developed to ensure all requirements were met, including balancing student class size, staff positioning, and minimizing the number of students required to move to new schools. Options for both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years were presented to district administration and to the school board for final approval.

Once the new boundary plan gained approval, all elementary bus routes needed to be adjusted for the grade changes. Over 170 students who formerly walked to the elementary school now needed to ride to the intermediate school. Additionally, over 300 grade 6 students who rode middle/high school buses switched to intermediate buses because of the grade changes.

By rerouting existing bus runs, creating the shuttle run concept between the elementary and intermediate school, and more efficiently utilizing bus capacity, all 470 students were absorbed into the existing bus runs. This means the district required no new buses for the upcoming school year, which was a major cost-saving accomplishment.



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