



MINUTES

Indiana State School Bus Committee

September 3, 2013

The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at the Department of Education office in Indianapolis, Indiana with the following members in attendance.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Danny Libs – Chairman
Ron Chew – Ind. Assoc. of School Bus Drivers
Dwayne Vandiver – Sch. Trans. Assoc. of Ind.
Dr. Joseph O’Neil – Governor’s Council on
Impaired & Dangerous Drivers
James Hanna – Pub. Sch. Superintendent
Carl Brown – Indiana School for the Deaf &
Indiana School for the Blind
Joey Dallas – Ind. School Boards Assoc.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sr. Trooper Chris Kath – ISP
Clifford Zehr – Ind. Assoc. of Sch. Bus
Dist.
John Perkins – IASBO

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Claudia Koerner – Ind. Dept. of Revenue
Assoc.
Shannon Dickson – BMV

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kent McDaniel – Ind. Trans. Assoc.
Mark Clawson – Ind. Twnshp. Assoc.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Carrie Duthie called roll. No guests were present. The June 4 meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Hanna noted a correction for the spelling of his name. Mr. Chew moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Mr. Vandiver seconded the motion to approve; motion carried.

ITEMS OF ACTION

Introductions

Dr. James Hanna was introduced as the newest voting member of the Committee. Dr. Hanna was appointed by Mrs. Ritz and serves the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents.

Sgt. Chris Kath was officially welcomed as a nonvoting member representing the Indiana State Police.

Seat Belt and Evacuation Drill

Mike LaRocco presented the new code for school bus evacuation drills to the Committee

IC 20-27-3-6.5 Committee to adopt and enforce rules concerning proper fastening of safety belt on school bus passenger's body and conducting a school bus passenger evacuation drill

Sec. 6.5. The committee shall adopt and enforce rules under IC 4-22-2 to require that a school bus driver operating a school bus do the following at least one (1) time each semester:

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(1) If the school bus is equipped with safety belts meeting the standards set forth in IC 9-19-10-2, provide instruction to the passengers on the school bus on the proper fastening of the safety belt about the passenger's body.

(2) Conduct a school bus passenger evacuation drill.

Rule promulgation for this new rule has begun.

The Committee discussed its role in adopting and enforcing the rules as required and asked Mike LaRocco to draw up a proposed draft with simple and easily adopted guidelines. District reporting will be on line through the DOE Online website.

On Bus WiFi

Kokomo School Corporation has requested permission to to put WiFi capability on all school buses in its district. After discussion, the Committee agreed that this is a local district decision as new specifications allow for the use of WiFi on school buses. Discussion included the concern that the district provide appropriate filtering with emphasis on social media sites. Mr. Brown made a motion to allow this request as presented, Mr. Vandiver seconded the motion, motion passed by voice vote.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Specification changes

The State Budget Agency is still reviewing the new school bus specifications. The public hearing cannot take place until the SBA has approved the specifications as presented.

Annual Safety Meeting

As of September 3, 2013, 45% of the yellow card holding drivers had completed the ASM.

School Bus Inspection Website

Sgt Kath provided an overview and demonstration of the enhanced ISP Bus Inspection website. The committee was pleased with the updates and how the information is presented.

Committee Binders

Carrie Duthie asked the Committee if the format of the member binders could be revised to include the current year and one previous year instead of the current format with several years' worth of data in each binder. One master binder with all information would be available for reference at all meetings. After discussion, it was agreed to move to the new binder format beginning in 2014.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented

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The next regular meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 2, 2013 at the Department of Education in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Without further business to discuss, Dr. Hanna made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Vandiver; motion carried.

Chairman

Secretary

Date