

The image features a bright yellow background with a dark brown vertical bar on the left side. In the center, there is a white, scalloped-edged shape. Inside this white shape, the text "TRANSPORTATION BUDGET PRESENTATION FY22" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines.

**TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET PRESENTATION
FY22**

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

- Budget Information
- Additional Transportation Information
- Busing Tiers
- Vendor/Contracts
- Challenges

OVERVIEW

The Nashua School District, in partnership with First Student, work together to provide transportation for thousands of students across the city every day. Safety is our top priority for both the District and our transportation provider. Nationally, the transportation of children on school buses is one of the safest forms of transportation available.

BUDGET INFO

- FY21 BUDGET - \$7,919,206
- FY22 BUDGET - \$8,194,914
- Increase of \$275,708 (contractual increase)

WHERE WE GO

- Provide transportation to :
 - 17 Nashua School District schools
 - The Brentwood Program
 - Clearway
 - 3 Catholic schools in Nashua
 - 2 Charter schools in Nashua
- Cost of \$125,502

TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

- We transport students:
 - Who live more than 1 mile from an elementary school or more than 2 miles from a middle school or high school.
 - Who are in transition and require transportation to their homeschool (less disruption).
 - Who have transportation requirement written into their IEP.

ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED

- High school shuttles
- Late buses
- Vocational education buses
- Summer school buses for ELL, SPED, Summer Power Scholars
- Out of district transportation
- Athletics
- Field trips

ROUTE VS. RUN VS. TIER

- **ROUTE:** A route is typically made up of 3 runs (1 run in each tier). A high school run (tier 1), a middle school run (tier 2) and an elementary run (tier 3).
- **RUN:** One (1) trip to and from a school for a group of students.
- **TIER:** All buses running in a particular time frame (Nashua has 3 tiers).

NASHUA PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL TIMES 2020 – 2021

NHS SOUTH.....	7:20 – 2:03	} Tier 1
NHS NORTH	7:20 – 2:03	
BISHOP GUERTIN.....	7:45 – 2:00	
PENNICHUCK MS	8:00 – 2:43	} Tier 2
ELM STREET MS	8:00 – 2:43	
FAIRGROUNDS MS.....	8:00 – 2:43	
NASHUA CATHOLIC.....	8:00 – 2:30	
AMHERST STREET.....	8:15 – 2:40	
BROAD STREET.....	8:15 – 2:40	
DR. CRISP.....	8:15 – 2:40	
FAIRGROUNDS ELEMENTARY.....	8:15 – 2:40	
LEDGE STREET.....	8:15 – 2:40	
MOUNT PLEASANT.....	8:15 – 2:40	
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.....	9:00 – 3:00	} Tier 3
BICENTENNIAL.....	9:00 – 3:25	
BIRCH HILL.....	9:00 – 3:25	
CHARLOTTE AVE.....	9:00 – 3:25	
MAIN DUNSTABLE.....	9:00 – 3:25	
NEW SEARLES.....	9:00 – 3:25	
SUNSET HEIGHTS.....	9:00 – 3:25	
ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND DESIGN.....	8:00 – 3:30	
MICRO SOCIETY ACADEMY.....	9:15 – 3:40	
BRENTWOOD	8:30 – 1:30	
CLEARWAY.....	8:30 – 1:30	

Tier 1 = green

Tier 2 = red

Tier 3 = blue

OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION

Typically provide transportation of 60 students to schools out of Nashua, such as:

- Lighthouse (Chelmsford)
- Valley Collaborative (Billerica & Tyngsboro)
- C.R.E.S.T. (Methuen)
- Dr. Franklin Perkins (Lancaster)
- Parker Academy (Concord)
- Longview (Deerfield)
- Germaine Lawrence (Arlington)
- Hollis/Brookline (Hollis)
- Learning Skills Academy (Rye)
- Melmark (Andover, MA)
- Nashoba Learning (Bedford, MA)
- RSEC (Amherst)
- Spaulding (Rochester)
- MPA Day School (Plymouth)

Currently providing transportation of 17 students living outside of Nashua to Nashua Schools

Total Cost: \$550,000

VENDORS

- First Student - Provide all in-district transportation (we are in the first year of a five-year contract with First Student).
- Durham, Caring Hands and North Reading Transportation are commonly used vendors for students going out of district.

STUDENTS LIVING IN TRANSITION

- Due to the McKinney-Vento Homeless assistance act, the Nashua School District is required to transport homeless students to their school of origin when it is in the best interest of the child.
- We are currently transporting Nashua students who reside in Merrimack, Hollis, Manchester, Hudson, Derry, Methuen, and Lowell.
- We also transport a large number of students who are in transition; however, still they reside in Nashua, just not within their school zone.
- The District currently has 253 students in transition.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE

- It has been highly publicized that a nationwide school bus driver shortage exists. According to a recent *School Transportation News* article, [80% of respondents surveyed](#) said their school district or bus company is currently lacking in school bus drivers.

How Bad Is the School Bus Driver Shortage in 2020?

- When it comes to nationwide statistics, the latest are about a year old, but they offer very little hope for much of a turnaround. According to a nationwide [survey](#) (PDF) from School Bus Transportation magazine, districts around the nation describe the school bus staffing problems as:
 - Desperate - 7%
 - Severe - 24%
 - Moderate - 36%
 - Mild - 24%
 - None - 9%

BUS TICKETS

- High school transportation is not mandated by the state; therefore, we may charge a bus fee.
- Tickets cost \$65 for a full year or \$32.50 for a half year.
- Students eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch receive a free or reduced pass.
- We currently have 2,184 high school ticket holders.
- We did not charge for a pass this year due to the pandemic.

TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES

- Driver/monitor shortage.
- District-wide SPED programs (including Pre-K) bus runs, by nature, are inefficient.
- Charter schools – school day length is different than the Nashua School District; therefore, it is difficult to fit them onto an existing tier.
- Transitional students - Students move often and routes need to be adapted quickly and efficiently as to not interrupt their schooling.

WHAT'S NEW IN TRANSPORTATION

- Implementation of First View Parent App and District dashboard scheduled for late spring.
- Due to a change in state law, this is our first year transporting Kindergarten students.
- Brentwood/ Pre-K relocation.

TRANSPORTATION DURING REMOTE LEARNING

- Extremely individualized transportation requirements for our Special Ed. Students (example: bring in a student for one hour midday for a service or students going two full days and two half days).
- CTE transportation
- Afternoon practice buses to school for athletes
- SAT busing
- Athletic event transportation
- Non-public school transportation
- School lunch deliveries

COVID PROCEDURES

- Students will wear a face covering over their nose and mouth at all times while boarding, riding, and exiting the bus.
- Daily disinfectant spray and monthly protectant barrier being applied (average \$6,000 per month).
- When possible, we will only have one (1) student per seat.
- Running independent private school routes to avoid mixing school populations.
- Drivers wiping down handrails.