

SSBA MEMBER'S COUNCIL

February 3, 2017

Regina, Saskatchewan

Regina Catholic Schools


Curt Van Parys, CFO

Eléna Chase, Transportation Officer

Regina Catholic Schools

- 29 Schools (plus 1 Associate School)
- 11,473 students
- \$113.3 M Operational Budget
- 1050.00 Staffing FTE's
- 5,160 students are transported (45.0%)
- 84 regular runs; 38 piggyback runs; 47 PreK/K noon hour runs
- 1.00 FTE allocated for Transportation

Challenges

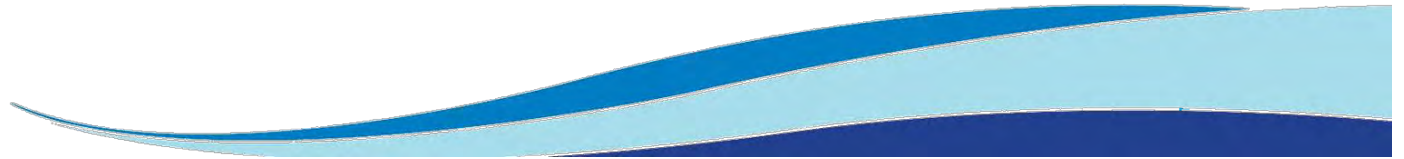
- Administrative practises were “old school”
 - Transportation service contract had run its course
 - Transportation service provider was having significant bus driver recruitment and retention issues
 - Bell times could not be adjusted
 - Bus supervision times could not be extended
 - Education was being negatively effected by Transportation
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Bus Routing Software


- Bus routing was completed with a City of Regina map and an Excel spreadsheet
 - Business case was made to automate; a Request for Proposal (RFP) issued
 - Three responses to the RFP
 - Bus Planner (GeoRef) selected in 2014
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Bus Planner

- July & August 2015 became known as “the summer of optimization”
- Optimization was initially completed by school boundary
- Optimization then completed on a per run basis
- Outcomes?
 - Mileage savings equal to crossing Canada five times
 - Cumulative ride time reduction of ten hours/day



Bus Planner

- Reinforcement of first on, first off practise
 - Parent portal access to up-to-date route information
 - Full integration with student information system
 - Challenges in data integrity with schools experiencing high student turnover
 - Data was invaluable in completing a joint transportation feasibility study with Regina Public
 - “I Love Bus Planner”
 - Developed capacity to ask, and answer, “what if”?
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What if?

- What if we leveraged the differentiated start times of five or our community schools by doubling up, or piggybacking our busing service?

	5 C.S.	Others
Start time	9:20 AM	9:00 AM
End time	3:10 PM	3:35 PM

- St. Francis was one of the first schools to be piggybacked
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St. Francis



- Located in northwest Regina (Rosemont Subdivision)
- 389 students

St. Francis Before

St. Francis as of June 25, 2015

FRA1	35 minutes 6.75km	55 students
FRA2	43 minutes 11.17km	58 students
FRA3	34 minutes 10.38km	46 students
FRA4	38 minutes 7.87km	69 students

Average run time 150 minutes/4 runs=37.5 minutes
Average run in km 36.17 kms/4 runs=9.04 kms
 Student count= 228 students



St. Francis

	Before (June 2015)
Routes	4
Average Run Time (mins.)	37.5
Kilometres (one way)	36.17
Students	228
Students/Route	57

St. Francis

	Before (June 2015)	After (Sept 2015)
Routes	4	11
Average Run Time (mins.)	37.5	11.4
Kilometres (one way)	36.17	37.01
Students	228	244
Students/Route	57	22

Unintended Consequence

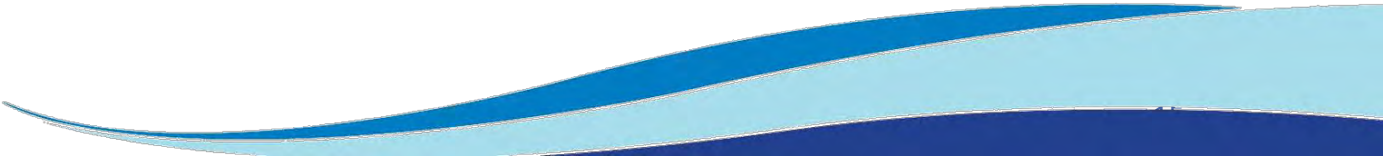
- Principal/Vice-Principal reduced time spent on transportation related student behaviour issues (80% reduction)
- Less discipline time = more education time



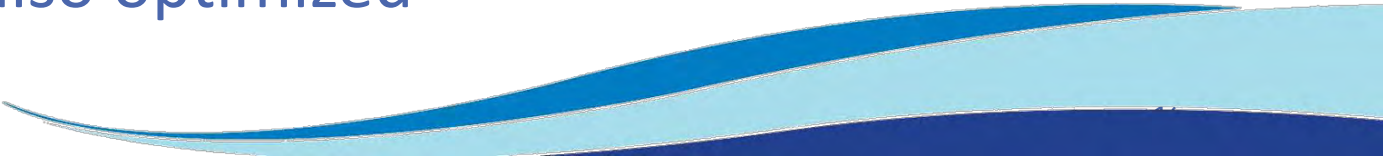
Piggyback FastTrack

- September 2015: St. Francis
 - September 2015: St. Michael
 - November 2015: Holy Rosary
 - November 2015: St. Augustine
 - September 2016: Sacred Heart
 - Freed up \$ were used to invest in security cameras, website redevelopment & software
 - Assisted busing contractor with bus driver recruitment and retention (required 17 fewer drivers and buses at full implementation)
 - **Mileage savings changed from five times across Canada to ten times across Canada**
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Busing RFP

- RCSD issues RFP in January 2016
 - Seven year term with option to extend for three one-year terms
 - Four respondents to the RFP
 - Low bid: 14.4% rate increase
 - High bid: 34.3 % rate increase
 - Houston we have a \$ problem??
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The Financial Impact

- \$4,668,625: 2015/16 “Yellow Bus” Budget
 - \$5,213,755: 2016/17 “Yellow Bus” Budget with the lowest bid and student growth
 - Actual 2016/17 “Yellow Bus” Budget?
 - \$4,562,615; a \$106,010 reduction from 2015/16
 - \$651,140 less than what it could have been
 - Piggyback bus route implementation “saved our bacon”
 - Kindergarten routing was also optimized
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Other Impacts

- LP3 Transportation is our transportation service provider
 - Reciprocal Accountability based on performance metrics (\$15,000 returned to Regina Catholic Schools since inception)
 - Propane (89% carbon footprint reduction and 80% noise reduction)
 - GPS
 - Where's My Bus? (approximately 2,500 parents/guardians/daycares signed up)
 - Delay notifications inform parents of late buses and estimated arrival times
 - Cameras (significant drop in student behavior incidents)
 - LP3 aligned with our beliefs and values
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