



Transportation Update

April 27, 2026

Dr. Madeline Negron Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Paul Whyte, Chief of School Operations

Ms. Sequella Coleman, Supervisor of Transportation and Student Transfers

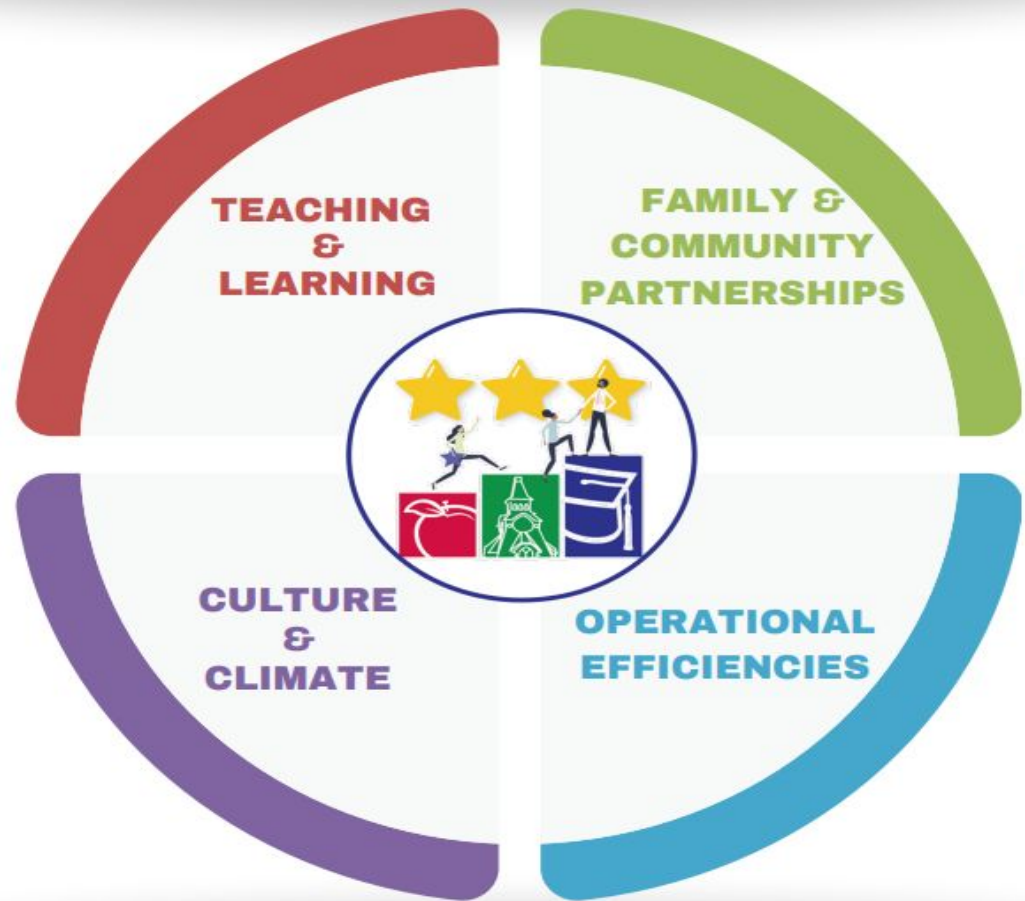
Ms. Michele Bonanno, Supervisor of Magnet and Grant Programs

NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS' PATH TO EXCELLENCE

Strategic Operating Plan - 2024-2029

MISSION
In partnership with families and community, New Haven Public Schools empowers every student to thrive in a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment that embraces and cultivates our vibrant cultural diversity. Together, we nurture critical thinkers and lifelong learners who are prepared for success.

VISION
Our vision is to be a district of excellence that inspires, empowers and equips every student to flourish in and contribute to a changing world.



- CORE VALUES**
- Equitable Opportunities
 - High Expectations
 - Collaboration & Partnerships
 - Continuous Improvement
 - Systemic Accountability

Together, Striving Towards the Next Chapter of Excellence

Who do we transport?

New Haven Students

11,810

Total Student Population Served

Specialized Student Groups

Charter School Students: **2,650**

Interdistrict Suburban Students: **1,826**

Headstart Students: **357**

McKinney Vento Students: **329**

Private School New Haven Students: **302**

Students in an Outplaced Setting: **202**

17,476 Students

First Student

- Vehicle Type 1 - Full Size School Bus
- Vehicle Type 2 - Mini Bus / Van / Wheelchair

Multiple Cab Service Providers

- Taxi Cabs
- Minivans

CT Transit Access

Bus Passes

Available for Sound School and High School Students

RFP Requested Pricing

Requested 260 Type 1 and 57 Type 2 for a total of 317 vehicles .

Current Fleet Operations

Operating a total of 331 busses:

- 242 Type 1 Buses
- 64 Type 2: SPED/Small Loads/WC
- 21 Type 2: Outplacement/WC
- 4 Type 1: Headstart routes.

Support Personnel

55

Bus Monitors

Provided by First Student

Service Overview

Cabs provide essential transportation for outplaced, unhoused, and special needs students, ensuring reliable access to education.

Rigorous Vetting & Compliance

All vendors are selected via a formal bid process and must meet strict safety standards:

- Criminal background checks
- Motor vehicle safety inspections
- Current vehicle registration
- "Student Transport" license plate verification
- Comprehensive insurance coverage
- Mandatory drug testing
- Other district-specific safety requirements

Current Vendors

- **Kiddie Kabz**
- **Piggyback Rides**
- **Ride Along**
- **WMC**
- **First Choice**
- **Above Average**

Fuel Management

- **Diesel Fuel:** Filled at East River Energy under a city negotiated annual rate based on the FY26 State Contract.
- **Unleaded Fuel:** Purchased via local fueling stations and billed to NHPS. Rates vary and are not locked into the contract.

Contracted Support

55

Bus Aides

Provided by First Student for Special Education Students

District Personnel

24

Additional Aides

NHPS Employees servicing Special Ed. Students

Contracted Bus Fleet

20 unscheduled buses available for local field trips and flexible programming through First Student contract.

Availability: 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Paid Field Trips

Trips put out to bid and paid for by school site-based or department budgets.

Summer Programming

- Summer Programming: Not in contract (\$196,000)
- Special Education Summer Programming: Not in contract (\$827,667)

Charter School Logistics

Additional Charter School Full Days/Half Days - Above and Beyond the Contract.

The [Connecticut Clean Air Act \(Public Act 22-25\)](#), requires all school buses to be zero-emission by 2040 (2030 for environmental justice communities) and bans state purchase of new diesel transit buses after Jan 1, 2024. As of early 2026, legislation is under consideration to adjust these deadlines.

Minimal Infrastructure Charging will cost \$8.25 Million

Electric School Bus prices tend to hover 3 to 4 times more expensive than fuel buses

First Student does not have any current electric buses for us to pilot routes to make sure that the charge would be long enough for all of our round trips including interdistrict routes.

Transportation Cost History

Line Item	FY 22-23 Actuals	FY 23-24 Actuals	FY 24-25 Actuals	FY 25-26 Budget	FY 25-26 EOY Projection
Transportation / Busing TYPE I NHPS & Charters	\$17,192,818	\$17,421,720	\$19,160,917	\$18,185,898	\$20,089,802
Special Education & Small Load Transportation TYPE II	\$6,650,822	\$7,051,283	\$8,039,224	\$5,273,895	\$9,856,917
Tech Schools	\$587,501	\$653,592	\$652,677	\$452,000	\$800,000
Transit Bus Passes	\$25,200	\$42,700	\$0	\$102,375	\$181,490
Athletics	\$480,485	\$576,847	\$587,938	\$572,900	\$640,334
Field Trips	\$60,343	\$44,450	\$121,691	\$230,724	\$134,254
Outplacement Transportation	\$4,783,301	\$5,225,139	\$6,511,457	\$3,705,000	\$6,859,016
McKinney Vento	\$210,708	\$520,629	\$416,478	\$206,117	\$531,216
Interdistrict Transportation	\$1,197,235	\$1,915,063	\$1,372,090	\$1,333,680	\$1,832,800
Interdistrict portion paid by State of CT (Not included in total)	-\$2,948,400	-\$2,840,000	-\$2,834,000	-\$2,834,000	-\$2,592,200
	\$33,656,328	\$35,714,576	\$39,108,534	\$32,313,964	\$40,925,829

Type 1 Service Reduction

High School Opt In Plan

Potential Savings: \$620,000 (20 Type 1 Busses on Tier 1)

Eliminate K-4 Summer Transportation

Potential Savings: \$196,000

Type 2 Service Reduction

Riverside Transportation: \$217,000

Eliminate 7 small loads on Tier 1; move to bus passes

Consolidation of 10 loads: \$930,000

Potential Additional Savings

In 2019, we operated **5,034** Bus Stops.

Today, we are currently operating **7,027** Bus Stops.

Continued route analysis could determine additional time efficiencies that could potentially result in cost savings. That work is underway.