

Michigan
Council 25

AFSCME

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American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

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ALERT

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Attention: ALL Parents, Concerned Citizens and Employees Detroit Public Schools Plans to Eliminate Bus Attendants!

Despite difficult economic times and the budget problems Detroit Public Schools face, it is an outrage that the district plans to eliminate Bus Attendant services for virtually all Special Needs Students. Your help is urgently needed to prevent implementation of this draconian cutback. Please contact the people listed - elected officials and members of the media alike - and express your outrage, clearly and concisely.

The School District of the City of Detroit through its Financial Manager, Robert Bobb, has decided to eliminate Bus Attendant Service for the 5,000 Special Needs Students of the School District. The District is stating that out of the 5,000 medically Wheel Chair Bound, Autistic, Severely Mentally Impaired, Severely Physically Impaired, Emotionally Mentally Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Visually Impaired and Learning Disabled only 93 Special Needs Students are eligible to receive a Bus Attendant. This is an absolute outrage to put over 5,000 Special Needs Students and Staff in danger because of a budget deficit. We call on all Concerned Parents, Citizens and Employees to contact the following people and request Bus Attendants be placed in the IEP reports for all Special Needs Students that require Bus Attendant assistance and that Bus Attendants Service be restored immediately for the safe transportation of the Detroit Public School Special Needs Students.

Governor Jennifer Granholm
Lieutenant John Cherry
517-373-3400 517-373-6800

Kathleen Strauss, President
Mr. Robert Bobb, Financial Manager
Michigan Board of Education

DPS 313-870-3725
517-373-6534

Mayor Dave Bing
Sherrie Ulerly, Deputy
313-224-3400
Chief of academic – 313-873-6478

Terry Burgess, Consultant
Felicia Baker, Supervisor
313-873-7494
Chasity Pratt,
Jennifer Mokowski,
Detroit Free Press
Detroit Public schools media
313-873-8401

Steve Wasko
Marisa Shultz
Detroit Public Schools media
Detroit News
313 873-4892
313-222-2310

You may wish to make the following points:

1. Why would you take away a direct service to Special Needs Students?
2. I will file a lawsuit against Detroit Public School if the Bus Attendants are laid-off and my child is injured on the bus.
3. Bus drivers are refusing to take Special Education Routes out without a Bus Attendant.
4. If Bus Attendants are laid-off Parent Groups will file lawsuits on behalf of the students due to safety concerns and large numbers of Special Education Students that are transported on a daily basis (over 7,000 Special Education Students).