

# Transportation News and Notes

## Directors' Corner

From R. Allen Connor

2018-2019 Vol.2



"Taking Care of Business and Taking Care of Our Students 100% of the Time" is our focus in the Transportation Department for 2018-2019 school year.

### Director's checklist for Back to School:

Everything is on track for a WONDERFUL start for the upcoming school year. We are focusing daily on:

- 1-Safety of our students
- 2-Customer Service to our parents
- 3-Partnership with our schools

This year our staff is taking care of business and we are excited to collaborate with our parents and do just that. We want you to know that we, along with our drivers, are excited and ready to roll!

## Welcome Back

This 2018-2019 school year marks a huge milestone for the Transportation Department. It has always been our goal to provide our students with a comfortable ride to and from school and we started achieving this in 2003 when we provided the first air-conditioned school buses. This is the first time in our history that all of Columbia County school route buses and spare buses will be equipped with climate control. This good news means our students and drivers will be cool in the summer and warm in the winter, making it more comfortable riding on the bus.

Safety is still our number one priority; we ask all of our students to stay seated while the bus is in motion and to follow the bus rules set forth by Columbia County Board of Education. Each week our drivers will introduce, teach, and reinforce a different bus safety rule to their students. We look forward to a great school year by having our students follow the safety rules and our parents helping to reinforce safety as a priority!

### From the Fleet Service Shop CCBOE Fleet Manager Jay Dunham

Our team of technicians have worked diligently this summer to prepare the CCBOE vehicle fleet for service in 2018-2019. All 294 school buses were inspected and state certified by the MCCD, GDPS. New buses were added to our fleet this year, Multi-Function School Activity Buses. Each high school will have one of these "white buses" labeled front and rear as "Activity Bus" and they will be used for small group trips. In the near future is a new transportation maintenance facility to replace our current shop, built in 1970. We look forward to meeting your transportation needs this school year!

### Field Trips and Athletic Trips Mary Lamb-Field Trip Coordinator



We are excited to be able to provide the opportunity for travel to all of our Columbia County Schools students. Last school year we had 2,800 trips on the road driving over 210,000 miles to service our students on field and athletic trips. The heaviest travel months are

September/October and February/March. If your students experience delays on routes, it could be in part to the volume of buses and drivers on trips during those times. We will make every effort to limit the delays and provide the best customer service possible. Thank you for your patience and support.

### Bus Managers

706-541-2729

Donna Hattaway Ext 5403  
represents

Lakeside, Evans and Greenbrier,  
and Stallings Island Areas.

Alaine Howell Ext 5420  
represents

Grovetown, Harlem and Appling  
Dana Thompson Ext 5404  
represents

All Special Needs Drivers/Aides

There will always be a Bus Manager on duty starting at 6:00 am until the last bus parks. Please contact your bus manager for questions or concerns about routing, stop scheduling, bus and driver concerns.

### Assistant Director Shirley Doolittle

Welcome to Open House we are happy to meet, greet, and assist you. There will be extra school bus drivers at Elementary Open House assisting parents with any questions about buses. Check to find your stop on [www.ccboe.net](http://www.ccboe.net) link "Find Your Bus Stop" and check for any bus changes on the link "Daily Bus Changes" posted daily at 6 AM and 2 PM. We are excited to transport all students, and to serve our parents!

