Jerome Jt. School District No. 261
District Office
125 4th Avenue West
Jerome, Idaho 83338
Telephone (208) 324-2392 • FAX (208) 324-7609

Date: 4/16/2026

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1. Introduction

- **Overview:** To deliver the highest standard of safe and dependable student transportation, enabling every child to reach their educational potential by providing a positive and comfortable travel experience to and from school.
- **Purpose of Report:** To update School Board and community members with progress, changes and updates within the Student Transportation Department.

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2. Department Highlights

- **Key Achievements:**
  - Transportation Staff attended STN Conference
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- **Department Updates:**
  - 2 Drivers permitted this month.
  - 3 drivers in classroom training currently.
  - Decrease total route count.
  - April ridership approx. 1500 students per day.

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3. Financial Overview

- **Current Budget Status:**
  - Current YTD 1.2 million
  - Depreciation Received 245,728 for 24/25 School Year.
  - BusRight preapproval to SDE for school year 26/27.

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4. Goals and Objectives

- **Progress Toward Goals:**
  - Working with BusRight on Tier routing model.

04/16/2026

Tim Hicks, Transportation Director *tim.hicks@jeromeschools.org*

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- Summer School routing to begin early May
- **Upcoming Goals:**
  - Ridership update for rollover.
  - PowerSchool Data evaluation, Data comparison

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5. Challenges and Solutions

- **Identified Challenges:**
  - Routing/Salary concerns caused by district testing.
  - Driver Recruitment
  - Trip Requests
  - PowerSchool Data
- **Proposed Solutions:**
  - Discuss adverse effects of student ridership changes.
  - Continue to provide positive work environment and support staff.
  - Moving towards a digital trip request.
  - Continue to maintain student data separately.

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6. Staffing and Professional Development

- **Staff Updates:**
  - 1 newly licensed driver.
  - Working through annual staff evaluations. Driver and Personnel.
  - Driver moving from North Idaho, will be a route driver for 26/27 SY.
- **Professional Development:**
  - Transportation Clerk attended critical logistics training at STN.
  - Working with SDE to provide the Dept. of Education School Bus Inspection Manual.

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7. Student Impact

- **Academic Impact:**
  - Transportation team has focused on routing and driver training to ensure a positive environment for the start and finish of each educational day. Travel times to and from school have been decrease immensely from previous years.
  - One student suspension, three in school meetings and four parent meetings this month for student behavior on the bus.

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- **Extracurricular/Co-curricular Impact:**
  - As the Driver pool grows the Transportation Dept will continue to transport athletic trips. Transportation is able to provide services for all trips within the school hours. The department is working diligently to cover all athletic events to minimize contractor use.
  - 26/27 Senior trip to Lagoon will use a contracted service.
  - Transportation has two (2) drivers available for Friday athletic trips.
  - Transportation has been providing district transportation for field trips that fall in the daily schedule. Home to school routing remains the priority.
  - In April the Transportation team has 70 events and activity trips currently scheduled. In May the number of trips planned is 60 plus.

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