

## **Gouverneur CSD engages in conversations on busing model**

At the December 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting, the topic of the district's transportation model was discussed.

In recent years, the district has been asked to consider combining the middle and high school bus routes with the elementary school bus routes for single-trip busing.

As discussed at the Board of Education meeting, we'd like to outline what a change to single-trip busing might look like for our students, staff and community.

In the case of single-trip busing, morning bus routes would pick up all students in Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 at the same time in accordance with the current middle and high school pick-up schedule. The elementary school day would start and end approximately ninety (90) minutes earlier than the current schedule. Buses would drop middle and high school students off first, before dropping off elementary school students.

In the afternoon, buses would pick up the middle and high school students before driving to the elementary school. Elementary school students would then board the buses, and all students would be transported home in accordance with the current middle and high school drop-off schedule.

### **Key changes to consider:**

- All buses would transport students in Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 at the same time.
- School start and end times would be more aligned district wide.
- The length of each bus route may be longer than current routes.
- The school district would see an estimated increased, up-front annual cost of \$600,000 associated with the number of buses, routes, monitors and drivers required each day. These costs would be 90% reimbursable through New York State Transportation Aid.

In January, all district stakeholders will be invited to share input on these potential changes in an effort to gather feedback in time to prepare for the 2026-27 district budget.