



The Value of GPS-Driven Applications for K-12

An Everyday Solutions Whitepaper





GPS TO THE RESCUE

“Last Wednesday at 3:48 pm in the afternoon, an 84 passenger school bus pulled up to a railroad crossing, the bus driver made a proper stop and then proceeded to drive through the crossing. Two railroad employees working nearby tripped the sensor that caused the stop arm to go down and crash on top of the bus. Fortunately, no one was injured, but the school bus was damaged. The railroad officials said that the driver did not stop as mandated by state law and drove through the crossing as the stop arm was coming down.

We reviewed the GPS data from Everyday Solutions and the system confirmed that the driver followed procedure and made a proper stop (the GPS is connected to sensors on the bus) and the railroad was at fault for the accident. A lawsuit was avoided and we were able to get this driver back to work with the full confidence that she did the right thing. The driver is now a big supporter of GPS!”

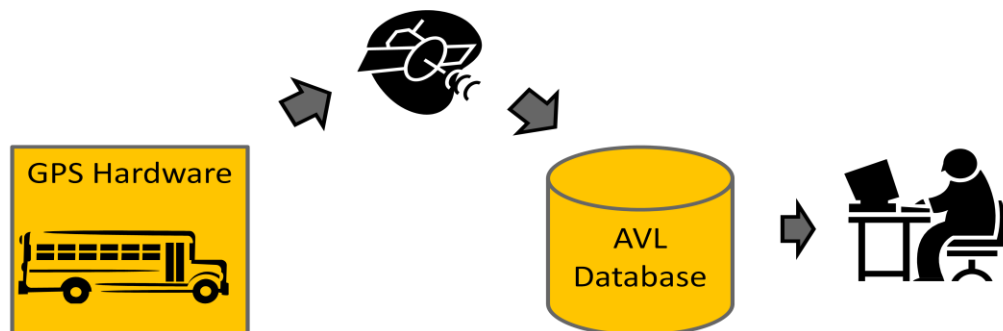
*Eric Fritz, Former Transportation Director
School District of Escambia County
Pensacola, Florida*

WHAT ARE GPS-DRIVEN APPLICATIONS?

GPS-driven applications are a suite of software applications that leverage data from GPS hardware to save your school district money and time, keep students and drivers safe and save the planet and your student’s health. These savings can be applied to educational initiatives.

GPS AND AVL AND HOW THEY WORK TOGETHER

The Global Positioning System (GPS) used for vehicle tracking, collects the school bus’s location, speed, direction and date/time stamp from 24 active satellites orbiting the earth. This information is transmitted in real-time to a central computer connected to a private network or to the Internet and is displayed through an Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) software application. The GPS data is extremely accurate and can show the vehicle position on a digital street map as well as an aerial map that is accurate to within 15 feet. Information about each bus run is stored in a database and management reports will show vehicle information for selected day and time ranges. The GPS tracking unit is installed on each bus and is wired into the battery so unlike a hand-held unit, it is not likely to get lost or stolen or run out of power. The GPS unit is also connected to safety sensors on the bus, so that the system can detect when yellow or red flashers are used, when the stop arm is activated or when the engine is turned on and off as well as the status of other vehicle systems.



GPS DRIVEN ALERTS

GPS-driven alerts leverage data from the GPS hardware to immediately inform you if there's an issue on the vehicle. An Emergency Button is installed on each bus and connects to the GPS unit. If there is an issue, the driver can press the Emergency Button, and an alert is immediately sent to the dispatcher or other stakeholders. The alert includes the precise location of the bus which is critical to assist emergency responders. Alerts can also be configured to send a message if speed or engine idle time exceeds the district mandated threshold, to minimize fuel waste and the negative impact on the environment and your budget.

THE IMPACT OF GPS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

School districts primarily purchase GPS to control costs and to improve operational efficiencies. With accurate information about the routes that are actually driven, districts can optimize bus routes and in the process reduce fuel consumption and related costs. GPS also provides a way to resolve issues quickly and to provide better services to the community, improve safety for both students and drivers and save the planet and student's health.

- Drivers are better equipped to address issues onboard the bus (student with allergy who got stung by a bee, fight between two students on the bus, traffic accident, etc...)
- Students are safer because drivers and dispatchers have GPS and always know the location of the bus
- Parents get quick answers to their questions about student transportation
- The transportation department saves money on operations because they can analyze and optimize route plans based on the actual miles driven
- Law enforcement has precise location information when there is an emergency
- Law suits are decreased and/or settled quickly
- School Administrators can manage the information workflow more effectively
- Superintendents can make informed business decisions pertaining to student transportation
- School districts can improve student transportation planning based on historical information that is recorded every day
- The decrease in pollution saves our planet and student's health



Operational Efficiency

GPS empowers the school transportation department to operate more efficiently resulting in cost savings. "GPS validates bus arrivals in real-time immediately to satisfy parents. We can prove with accurate reports while on the phone with the parent. It's been a huge time savings – a lot quicker," said John Payne, Routing Manager at Newport News Public Schools in Newport News, Virginia

Cost Savings

Forsyth County Schools in Winston-Salem, North Carolina has decreased their driver payroll due to EveryTime, a GPS-driven Time and Attendance management solution. "On average, our salary cost per month dropped \$25,000 with EveryTime," according to Rhonda Fleming, Transportation Director of the School District.



THE IMPACT OF GPS FOR BUS DRIVERS

Bus drivers and students are safer due to GPS and school districts have the proof they need to support bus drivers when wrongly accused of speeding, idling and other safety violations.



Safety and Security

GPS ensures that the district knows the precise location of each vehicle in their fleet at all times. Real-time information is valuable so that they can proactively address potential problems such as an incoming storm, a fight on the bus or a disabled bus. Knowing the vehicles location enables the district to react quickly when the bus's emergency button is activated.

Mr. Binford Sloan, Transportation Director at Nash Rocky Mount Public Schools in Rocky Mount, NC said, "There's one bus driver with 60-70 children, and no reinforcements. Drivers don't have a back-up like teachers do in the classroom. They don't have that luxury. They have a panic button when they need it and it's important."

Issue Resolution

The GPS system contains accurate information that has proven to be invaluable to show what really happened and to protect and support bus drivers. In Forsyth County School District in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, a student was hit when a motorist sped through the school bus stop arm when it was activated and the flashing red and yellow lights were on. Miraculously, the student survived, but was injured. The motorist that hit the student fled the scene. Luckily, a neighbor got their license plate.

Because the School District had installed EveryPoint® from Everyday Solutions, Inc., an advanced school bus tracking solution that captures vehicle data such as where and when the school bus stop arm and flashing lights are activated, they were able to give this GPS data to law enforcement that proved that the school bus stop arm had indeed been activated and that the flashing lights were on when that child was hit. Rhonda Fleming, Transportation Director of the school district said, "When confronted with this evidence, the car driver admitted that they had hit the child. EveryPoint enabled us to get a conviction in a court of law."

Getting Started

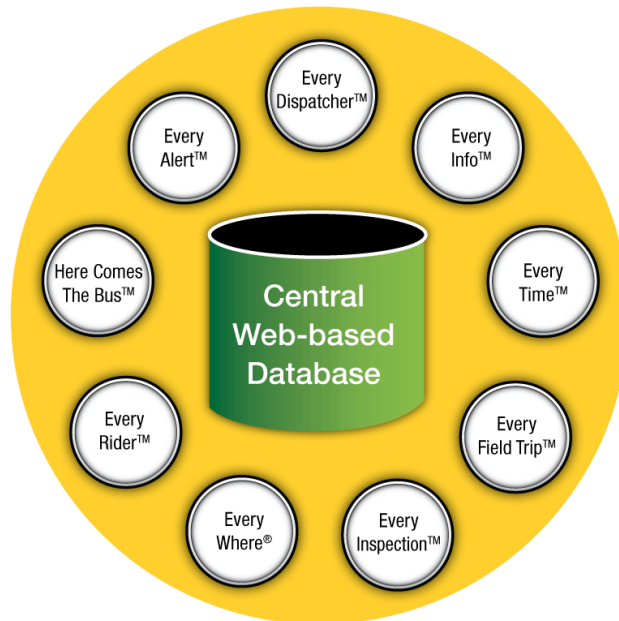
GPS and AVL is the first step in realizing all the cost-saving benefits that a total transportation optimization solution has to offer. Our world-class solutions work together to save your school money while saving the planet and your students' health by reducing fuel consumption, payroll costs and pollution.

- Track school buses and other service vehicles and maximize fleet performance. Choose from a cellular or radio-based communication platform with **EveryPoint -GPS Hardware**
- Get quick real-time information on school bus and service vehicle location with this powerful Automatic Vehicle Location Application (AVL). Analyze vehicle information and view maps of vehicle activities. Easily change bus assignments. Compare planned vs. actual information to improve accountability, safety, service and efficiency throughout your district with **EveryWhere ®Pro –Robust Tracking Software**
- Ensure student and driver safety. Alert dispatchers, supervisors and emergency responders when the driver presses the emergency button or when speed or engine idling thresholds are exceeded with **EveryAlert™ -Real-Time Emergency and Safety Violation Alerts**

DO EVEN MORE ONCE YOU HAVE GPS AND AVL

Once you have GPS and AVL, you can do a whole lot more to save money and the planet, improve safety, boost parent satisfaction and enhance services.

Everyday Solutions is the only student transportation technology provider that offers solutions to optimize every aspect of your student transportation operations.



- Reduce payroll costs, improve accuracy and minimize the tedium and time required to collect, manage, analyze and roll-up time card data with **EveryTime™ - Time Management**
- Tighten security, perform capacity analysis and simplify state reimbursement reporting by accounting for who rides the bus and when they ride with **EveryRider™ - Rider Attendance**
- Streamline communications for bus passes, bus incidents and alternate bus stop requests with **EveryInfo™ - Transportation Workflow Management**
- Provide school administrators and other managers outside of the transportation department with the ability to track buses with **EveryWhere@Lite - Tracking Software**
- Efficiently manage Field Trip workflows from request to invoice with **EveryFieldTrip™ - Field Trip Management**
- Capture inspection data, ensure consistent pre and post trip inspections and service equipment immediately **EveryInspection™ - Vehicle Inspection Management**
- Give dispatchers and others control of their entire fleet with more vehicle tracking options than ever before with **EveryDispatcher™ - Vehicle Tracking Dashboard**
- Reduce calls about school bus arrivals, increase parent and caregiver satisfaction by enabling them to know the location of their child's school bus and get revenue sharing dollars with **Here Comes the Bus™ - Parent Notification**



School Saves \$25,000 a month in Driver Payroll

Rhonda Fleming, Transportation Director with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, had a hunch that some of her bus drivers were padding their time. She wasn't certain and couldn't prove it. After all, her drivers started their day well before management did so how could she test her hunch? Winston-Salem had no way to track when their drivers actually started their day, or when it ended. School Bus Drivers work a split shift, one in the morning and one in the afternoon so they were starting their day twice and ending their day twice. THEY were responsible for self reporting and managing their time sheets.

Ms. Fleming decided it was time to take control. The school district purchased EveryTime™, the Time and Attendance Management Solution from Everyday Solutions, Inc. The solution consists of an on-board slide-card reader coupled with GPS technology, EveryPoint® advanced GPS tracking hardware that tracks and captures vehicle data also from Everyday Solutions, Inc. The employee's slide their ID cards through the slide card reader and the date, time and GPS location of the vehicle are scanned for that employee. The solution can be used for any district worker either through slide-card scanners attached to a PC, any web enabled computer, with a Mobile Data Terminal (MDT), a smart phone, on a kiosk station or with an Interactive Voice Response System (IVR).

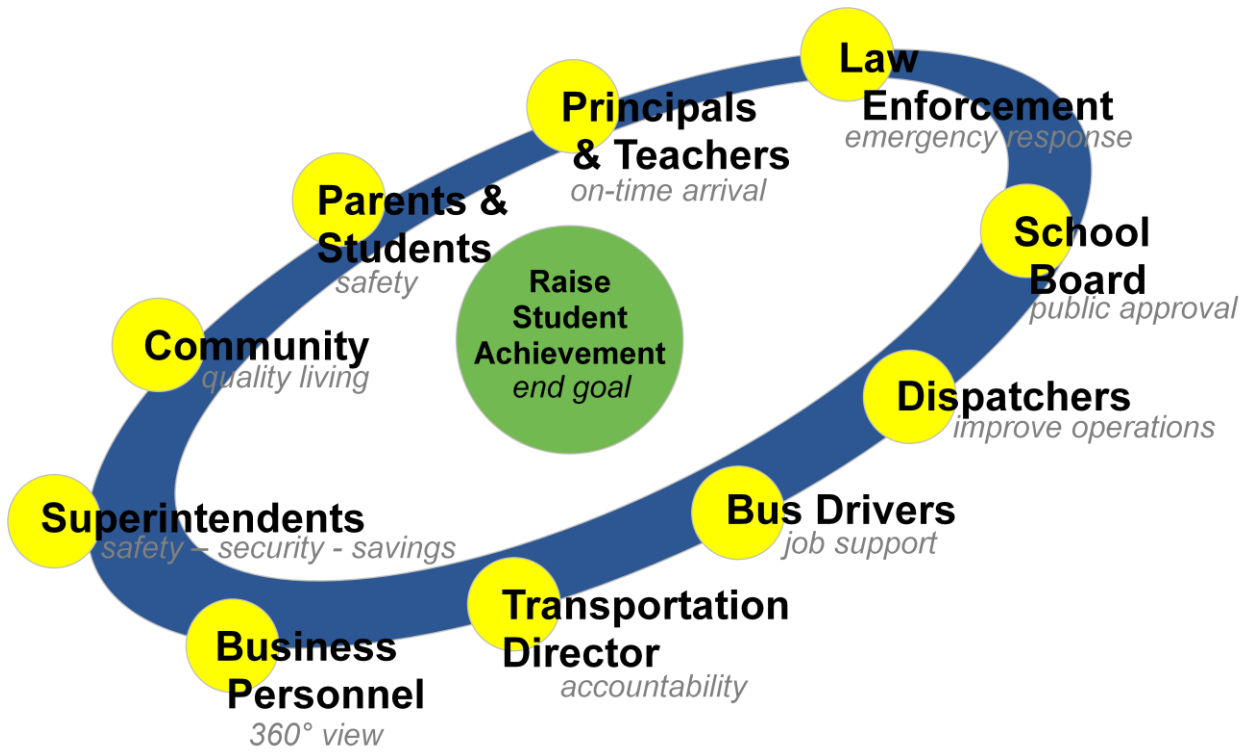
Ms. Fleming's hunch paid off. She discovered that many drivers were in fact padding their time. Ms. Fleming stated, "On average, our salary cost per month dropped \$25,000. Our drivers were over-reporting their time and now they can't. The driver said it would take thirty minutes to get somewhere but it would really take twenty."

Imagine what you could save if you could discover that your drivers were padding their time every day.

When asked what's next for her school district, Ms. Fleming said, "We'll be purchasing Everyday Solutions' Rider Attendance Application, a student tracking solution that keeps riders safe and secure and accounts for student ridership which can be used for planning, management and reporting."



The Many Benefits of GPS to Many Stakeholders



MAKE OPTIMIZING SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE

To learn more about how your district can start saving money, contact us now:

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