

Rerouted for success: what happens when you fix the system, not just the routes

How SBL helped a district achieve operational excellence through route analysis, staff training, and department audits.

The Situation

Bedford County Public Schools had concerns about their routing system. Routes were inefficient, transportation staff lacked consistent training, and communication between departments was fragmented at best. Without an integrated process or centralized oversight, even small issues rippled into bigger delays, complaints, and frustration from parents and staff alike.

Our Approach

Efficient and reliable school transportation requires more than just buses on the road – it demands strategic planning, skilled leadership, and ongoing operational review. Through our operational consulting service, School Bus Logistics implemented a three-tiered approach: route analysis, supervisor training, and a comprehensive operations audit

STEP 1: ROUTE ANALYSIS: OPTIMIZING EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE

We conducted a high-level review of existing school bus routes to identify improvement opportunities. This included:

- Evaluating current routes and pairings to improve customer service and on-time performance.
- Applying industry best practices to develop practical, efficient routing strategies.
- Collaborating with local staff to manage the project and implement strategic route corrections.
- Integrating accurate travel time data and resolving software-related import issues in EZ Routing.
- Improving office processes, ensuring sustainable efficiency.
- Providing hands-on EZ Routing software training for supervisors to enhance operational usage and data accuracy.



CLIENT

Bedford County Public Schools

LOCATION

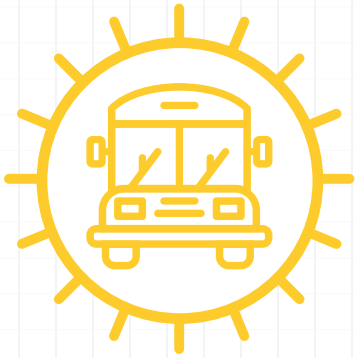
Bedford, Virginia

TIME FRAME

February–July 2025

Partnering with SBL gave us the insight and structure we needed to move our transportation operations forward. Their team conducted a comprehensive operational and routing review, helped us identify inefficiencies, and provided clear, actionable recommendations. The analysis supported our decision-making and set the stage for long-term improvements. Their expertise and professionalism made a significant impact on our department and how we support students and families.

Dr. Josh Cornett
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATION



SCHOOL BUS LOGISTICS

Founded in 2010, School Bus Logistics was built on a simple belief: safe, efficient routing isn't just possible — it's essential. Our team brings decades of experience in school transportation, meaning we've seen it all and solved just about everything.

By keeping a close watch on your routing, we spot issues before they become problems, ensuring drivers, students, and parents can count on a seamless, secure ride every day.

Our Approach Cont.

STEP 2: SUPERVISOR AND STAFF COACHING, MENTORING AND TRAINING: BUILDING LEADERSHIP CAPACITY

Great systems need great leadership. That's why the second phase of our initiative focused on empowering transportation supervisor and staff through customized assessing and mentoring:

- Tailored coaching sessions to enhance supervisor's leadership, communication, and decision-making skills.
- District-specific challenges were addressed directly to ensure practical relevance.
- Collaborative development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Departmental Policies and Transportation Handbook ensured consistent, effective management across the department.
- Ongoing coaching and mentorship provided continued support, helping supervisor and staff apply what they learn and tackle evolving challenges confidently.

STEP 3: TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT AUDIT: STREAMLINING OPERATIONS

The third and final component was a comprehensive audit of the transportation department, aimed at boosting day-to-day efficiency and long-term sustainability:

- Conducted a comprehensive audit of all major operational functions, identifying inefficiencies in route planning, low rider-to-capacity utilization, and compliance gaps in HR documentation. Audit interviews and ride-along uncovered inconsistent driver attendance and insufficient trip coordination.
- Delivered a detailed audit report containing over 20 targeted recommendations. These included fleet right-sizing strategies, route consolidation models, updated onboarding procedures, and enhanced communication standards. The report also identified at-risk practices and suggested corrective timelines.
- Provided in-person and virtual support for redistricting-related planning. This included modeling potential student movement due to boundary changes, simulating new bus routes in GIS software, and preparing parent-facing materials to explain upcoming transportation changes.

The Outcome

SBL completed a full operational audit of the transportation department, identifying inefficiencies, compliance risks, and missed opportunities for process improvement. The audit evaluated daily task execution, route management, driver oversight, interdepartmental communication, and adherence to regulations. A detailed written report was delivered to district leadership summarizing key findings and offering tiered recommendations — from immediate action items to long-term strategic shifts. Particular attention was given to supporting Bedford's upcoming redistricting plan, including guidance on integrating boundary changes into routing, managing parent communication, and minimizing service disruptions. SBL remained available to support the department through these transitions, providing implementation consultation and progress tracking as needed.

CONTACT US TODAY TO SEE HOW WE WILL HELP TAKE YOUR DEPARTMENT TO THE NEXT LEVEL