



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Smart School Bus Safety Pilot Program
SL 2021-180 Section 7.70

Date Due: July 1, 2022
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2022-2023

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SMART SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PILOT PROGRAM

Part I: General Overview:

- A. Legislative Reporting Requirements
- B. PSUs in the Procurement Process
- C. PSUs that have Declined Funding
- D. PSUs that have Neither Accepted nor Declined Funding

Note: All other PSUs are included in the other parts of the report

Part II: Vendor Provided Software, Hardware, and other Equipment

- A. Software Licenses and Software-as-a-Service
- B. Wi-Fi Connectivity
- C. Hardware
- D. Other Equipment

Part III: Vendor Provided Services by District

Part IV: Qualifying Vendors by District

Part V: Impact and Effectiveness of the Program

Part VI: Expenditures of State Funds Pursuant to the Program (as reported by the PSU)

- A. Improved Communications and Information
- B. Internet Connectivity

C. PART I: GENERAL OVERVIEW

A. Legislative Reporting Requirements

SL 2021-180 Section 7.70(a)

(5) Reports. – No later than July 1, 2022, and annually thereafter in any year in which the Program is in effect, the Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with each participating local school administrative unit and charter school, shall report at least all of the following information to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, any committee constituted by the House of Representatives or Senate to address school safety, and the Fiscal Research Division:

- a. An itemized breakdown of software infrastructure, hardware infrastructure, and equipment provided by qualifying vendors to participating local school administrative units and charter schools pursuant to the Program.*
- b. A description of all services provided by qualifying vendors to participating local school administrative units and charter schools pursuant to the Program.*
- c. A list of qualifying vendors contracting with participating local school administrative units and charter schools pursuant to the Program.*
- d. The impact and effectiveness of the Program.*
- e. All expenditures of State funds pursuant to the Program.*

B. PSUs in the Procurement Process:

The following are still in the procurement processes and do not have significant items to report at this time:

Chatham County Schools (190)
Clinton City Schools (821) (contract awarded late June, 2022)
Winston Salem/Forsyth County Schools (340)
Gaston County Schools (360)
Iredell /Statesville Schools (490)
Johnston County Schools (510)
Surry County Schools (860)
Wayne County Schools (960)

C. PSUs which have Declined Funding:

Burke County Schools (120)
Hickory City Schools (181)
New Hanover County Schools (650)

Sampson County Schools (820)
Transylvania County Schools (880)
Watauga County Schools (950)

Note: A methodology for selecting replacement PSUs with a similar population of students is under consideration in order to make full use of funds.

D. PSUs which have Neither Officially Accepted nor Declined Funding:

Harnett County Schools (430)
Martin County Schools (580)
Pasquotank County Schools (700)
Thomas Jefferson Classical Charter School (81A)

PART II: VENDOR PROVIDED SOFTWARE, HARDWARE, AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

For each of the following Public School Units, the following reporting elements are addressed:

- A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a Service
- B. Wi-Fi Connectivity
- C. Hardware
- D. Other Equipment

CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS (140):

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided:

App-Garden Routing Software:

- App-Garden for up to 94 to vehicles
- App-Garden Reporting Tool for up to 94 vehicles
- Synovia Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) for up to 134 vehicles
- Synovia Here Comes the Bus Parent App for up to 106 vehicles

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity:

- 112 Buses with Managed Cellular Wi-Fi Connectivity Software Suite

C. Hardware:

- 134 Synovia Tablets and Mounts (Installed Spring 2021)
- 134 Student Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Readers for Synovia Here comes the bus (Installed Spring 2021)
- 134 Managed Wi-Fi Connectivity Units Verizon

D. Other Equipment:

None

ELKIN CITY SCHOOLS (861):

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided:

Traversa Core Routing Software:

- Traversa Core for up to 10 vehicles
- Traversa Advanced Routing for up to 10 vehicles
- Traversa Reporting Tool for up to 10 vehicles

Traversa GPS and Parent Services:

- Traversa Advanced Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) for up to 10 vehicles
- Traversa Electronic Rollout Sheet for up to 10 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 for up to 10 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 Parent App for up to 10 vehicles

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity:

None

C. Hardware:

- 6 Tyler Drive Tablets and Mounts (Installation Pending – as of early July 29)
- 6 Student Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Readers for Tyler Drive (Installation Pending – as of early July 29)
- 1 Student RFID PC Wedge Scanner (Hardware to associate tags to students)

D. Other Equipment:

None

UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (900)

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided:

Education Logistics Inc. (Edulog):

- Athena Telematics and Route Management (Edulog and GPS Integration)
- Tablet Time and Attendance
- Web School Assistant
- Transportation Request and Registration Web Application
- RFID Student Ridership (Regular needs and SPED) for 257 vehicles (year 3)

Edulog Parent Services and Samsara GPS:

- Samsara Software platform (GPS provider)
- Parent Portal Premium for 257 vehicles
- Electronic Route Sheets for 257 vehicles
- Tablet Student Ridership (special needs) for 50 buses
- Parent Portal student ridership for 257 vehicles (year 3)

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity

None

C. Hardware:

- Samsara GPS Hardware for 257 vehicles
- Active 2 tablets for 270 vehicles
- Tablet Mounting hardware
- RFID Readers for 257 vehicles

D. Other Equipment:

- 28,000 RFID Cards

ALPHA ACADEMY (26B):

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided:

- Traversa Core for up to 15 vehicles
- Traversa Advanced Routing for up to 15 vehicles
- Traversa Reporting Tool for up to 15 vehicles

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity:

None

C. Hardware:

- TYD-SR-02 Student Reader Kit for Tyler Drive (15)
- TYD-SR-WEDGE Student Reader for PC Wedge (1)
- TYD04MNTKIT-INC Dock with built in lock, mounting arm and power cord (15)

D. Other Equipment:

None

SALLIE B HOWARD CHARTER SCHOOL (98A)

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided:

Traversa Core Routing Software:

- Traversa Core for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Advanced Routing for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Reporting Tool for up to 30 vehicles

Traversa GPS and Parent Services:

- Traversa Advanced Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Electronic Rollout Sheet for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 Parent App for up to 30 vehicles

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity:

None

C. Hardware:

- 21 Tyler Drive Tablets and Mounts (Installation Pending – as of early July 29)
- 21 Student Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Readers for Tyler Drive (Installation Pending – as of early July 29)
- 1 Student RFID PC Wedge Scanner (Hardware to associate tags to students)

D. Other Equipment:

- 1000 Blank Student RFID Cards
-

SUGAR CREEK CHARTER SCHOOL (60B):

A. Software Licenses or Software-as-a-Service that have been provided: (Note: To date none of this has been provided, although it was included in the report provided by the PSU.)

Traversa Core Routing Software:

- Traversa Core for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Advanced Routing for up to 30 vehicles

- Traversa Reporting Tool for up to 30 vehicles

Traversa GPS and Parent Services:

- Traversa Advanced Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Electronic Rollout Sheet for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 for up to 30 vehicles
- Traversa Ride 360 Parent App for up to 30 vehicles

B. Wi-Fi Connectivity:

None

C. Hardware:

- 32 Tyler Drive Tablets and Mounts
- 32 Student Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Readers for Tyler Drive
- 1 Student RFID PC Wedge Scanner (Hardware to associate tags to students)

D. Other Equipment:

- 1600 Blank Student RFID Cards

PART III: VENDOR PROVIDED SERVICES BY DISTRICT

CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS (140):

To date, the Vendors (App-Garden & Synovia) have successfully provided the following in a manner that is consistent with the Contract:

- Overall Project Management (continual throughout the project)
 - Hardware Installation
 - Creation of Caldwell County Map in App-Garden from a local Geographic Information System (GIS) source
 - App-Garden core Implementation including online training
 - Synovia GPS Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) Installation and Overview
 - Synovia Core Training
 - App-Garden & Synovia Training
 - Here Comes Bus Parent App Training
-

ELKIN CITY SCHOOLS (861):

To date, the Vendor has successfully provided the following in a manner that is consistent with the Contract:

- Overall Project Management (continual throughout the project)
- Hardware Installation
- Creation of Surry County Map in Traversa from a local Geographic Information System (GIS) source
- Traversa Core Implementation including online training

- Traversa Advanced Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) Installation and Overview
 - Traversa Core Training
 - Traversa Advanced Routing Training
 - Traversa Advanced AVL Training
-

UNION COUNTY PUBLIC UNION SCHOOLS (900):

To date, the Vendor has successfully provided the following in a manner that is consistent with the Contract:

- Overall implementation and project management (continual throughout the project)
 - Currently in process of installing Samsara GPS units and tablet mounting hardware
 - Samsara training in progress
 - Employee data being uploaded into Time and Attendance software
 - Bulk tablet programming
 - Tablets preparing for shipment
 - Server permissions granted
-

ALPHA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL (26B):

To date, the Vendor has successfully provided the following in a manner that is consistent with the Contract:

- Overall Project Management (continual throughout the project)
 - Hardware Installation
 - Creation of Cumberland County Map in Traversa from a local Geographic Information System (GIS)
 - Traversa Core Implementation including online training
 - Traversa Core Training
-

SALLIE B HOWARD CHARTER SCHOOL (98A):

To date, the Vendor has successfully provided the following in a manner that is consistent with the Contract:

- Overall Project Management (continual throughout the project)
 - Creation of County Map in Traversa from a local Geographic Information System (GIS) source
 - Traversa Core Implementation including online training
 - Traversa Core Training
-

SUGAR CREEK CHARTER SCHOOL (60B):

Data were due to the NCDPI on June 30, 2022. As of the date of the initial Sugar Creek report, the Vendor had not provided services. Some services have since been provided in early July, 2022.

PART IV: QUALIFYING VENDORS

CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS (140):

App-Garden

Synovia

CLINTON CITY SCHOOLS (821):

Education Logistics Inc.

Kajeet

ELKIN CITY SCHOOLS (861):

Tyler Technologies (<https://www.tylertech.com>)

UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (900):

Education Logistics Inc. (www.edulog.com)

Samsara – GPS provider

ALPHA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS (26B):

Tyler Technologies (<https://www.tylertech.com>)

SALLIE B HOWARD CHARTER SCHOOL (98A):

Tyler Technologies

Safety Vision (Camera Provider)

SUGAR CREEK CHARTER SCHOOL (60B):

Tyler Technologies

PART V: IMPACT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM

Districts and charter schools are in the procurement, installation, training phases presently. The ability for the transportation program to procure additional technologies for school buses as a result of these additional funds is encouraging as these purchases have been somewhat limited in the past due to limited transportation resources. It is anticipated districts and charter schools will have access to new vehicle diagnostic monitoring tools, student tracking, electronic timesheets, and school bus tracking.

PART VI: EXPENDITURES OF STATE FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM (AS REPORTED BY EACH PSU)

CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS (140):

- A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

Synovia:

\$57,888 Per year

App-Garden:

Cost for Routing Subscription (Three Years):

\$50,634 plus \$3,999.57 NC Sales Tax.

Total Cost for three-year term: \$54,033.57

- B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None

ELKIN CITY SCHOOLS (861):

- A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

Tyler Technologies: \$8,540

- B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None

UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (900):

- A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

Education Logistics Inc.: \$428,691.99

- B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None

ALPHA ACADEMY (26B):

A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

None

B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None

SALLIE B HOWARD CHARTER SCHOOLS (98A):

A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

Tyler Technologies: \$562.50

Safety Vision: \$6,695.29

B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None

SUGAR CREEK CHARTER SCHOOL (60B):

A. Expenditures on sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Improve communications and information)

Tyler Technologies: \$10,000

B. Expenditures on sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (3) of subsection (a):
(Internet Connectivity)

None