



**FAMILY & COMMUNITY OFFICE**

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Tony Smith, Superintendent  
Maria Santos, Deputy Superintendent  
Adrian Kirk, Director, FCO

DATE: February 28, 2011

SUBJECT: AC Transit Clipper Card or Youth Fare Discount District K-12 Students;  
Equivalent for Required Pupil Escorts

File ID Number: 11-0531  
Introduction Date: 2/28/11  
Enactment Number: 11-0380  
Enactment Date: 2-9-11  
By: RS

**ACTION**

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1011-0060A - Requesting Alameda-Contra Costa (AC) Transit District to Provide Clipper Card or Youth Fare Discount to Any District Enrolled K-12 Pupil and To Offer An Equivalent Fare to the Required Parent/Caregiver Escort of a K-12 Pupil Using A-C Transit.

**BACKGROUND**

AC Transit proposes to raise its fare structure making a decision on the changes in April of this year and implementation of the changes as soon as July 2011. In its own words AC Transit's goals are to create a simple, appropriate, equitable, transparent and supportable fare structure but one significant enough that will more than double the current Youth Fare. This proposal will have a significant impact on OUSD students and families. Because OUSD is responsible for providing a large number of students with transportation to and from school as well as the parents of students unable to travel alone and because the District relies on AC Transit as a partner to carry out this responsibility, the District must be aware of these changes. OUSD expenditures will also be impacted by these changes. Changes in the prices for Youth 31-Day and Adult 31-Day passes are:

- The AC Transit Youth Pass will continue to be available for students until their 19<sup>th</sup> birthdays.
- On July 1, 2011 the Youth Fare would increase from the current \$15.00, by 33%, to \$20.00. The Senior / Disabled Fare would remain unchanged at \$20.00. The Adult Fare will decrease by 5.5% to \$75.60 from \$81.00.
- In Fiscal 2013-14 the Youth Fare would increase again by 32.5% to \$26.50. The Senior / Disabled Fare would also increase by the same percentage from \$20.00 to \$26.50. The Adult Fare would rise again to \$81.00
- In Fiscal 2016-17 the Youth Fare, along with the Senior / Disabled Fare, would increase by an additional 30.2% to \$34.50. The Adult Fare will increase by 4.4% to \$84.60.
- In Fiscal 2018-19 the Youth Fare and the Senior / Disabled Fare would increase by another 30.4% to \$45.00. The Adult Fare will increase by 6.4% to \$90.00. This Youth Fare will have reached the AC Transit target of 50% of the adult fare.



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- The Youth and Senior / Disabled Fare increase proposal reaches \$48.60 by FY 2025-26.

As you may recall the Board on November 17, 2010 adopted Resolution No. 1011-0060 - Requesting A C Transit to Provide Clipper Card or Youth Fare Discount to Any District Enrolled K-12 Pupil. The action was a strong step but the situation remains unchanged. AC Transit is actively addressing its need to generate greater income, minimize fraud and devise an improved fare structure. Though there is concern as to the impact of the fare increases on the Oakland community, AC Transit's objectives are reasonable.

OUSD offices that provide transportation for at-risk students continue to seek accommodations from AC Transit that would make a significant difference for students, families and the school district. First, we would benefit from expanding the definition of "youth" to include all K-12 students regardless of age. AC Transit's position to date is unchanged on this point. Second, because OUSD is obliged to provide transportation in the form of bus passes to parents of some students who are not able to travel alone, a price accommodation for these parents would allow the both OUSD and AC Transit to meet their obligations while serving the community of Oakland.

In the next few weeks the Family & Community Office (FCO) expects to finalize and implement a series of pilot strategies for obtaining and reloading the AC Transit "Clipper" Card. The strategies include student direct access on campuses to reload their own cards, office strategies to reload cards and a digital information exchange strategy where OUSD is responsible for providing transportation. OUSD has been assured of continued ready access to paper passes available to institutions and social service agencies until the access issues around the Clipper Card are resolved. AC Transit would, however, like to severely limit use of paper passes as quickly as possible.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Director, FCO, as designee of the Superintendent, is serving as the lead negotiator on this issue with A-C Transit. He expects to attend the AC Transit Public Meeting on 2/17/11 on the proposed fare changes and attend the Public Hearings on the same topic March 9, 2011 to present the Amended Board Resolution in support of access to the AC Transit Youth Pass for all K-12 students and to express the concerns and positions of the school district.

The Director, FCO, in collaboration with other District departments, will finalize and implement the pilot strategies for the Clipper Card, subject to compliance with application, law, regulations and policies.

**RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education amend the previously adopted November 17, 2010 Resolution on AC Transit the Clipper Card or Youth Fare passes to include an accommodation for parent/caregiver escorts of children to whom the District provides subsidized transportation in cases where the children are not able to travel alone. It is recommended that the pass for required parents/adult escort of pupil who cannot travel along on AC Transit be equivalent to the Clipper Card or Youth Fare.

Attachment: Resolution No. 1011-0060A - Requesting Alameda-Contra Costa (AC) Transit District to Provide Clipper Card or Youth Fare Discount to Any District Enrolled K-12 Pupil and To Offer An Equivalent Fare to the Required Parent/Caregiver Escort of a K-12 Pupil Using A-C Transit.

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
GOVERNING BOARD  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Resolution No. 1011-0060A**

**Requesting Alameda-Contra Costa (AC) Transit District to Provide Clipper Card or Youth Fare Discount to Any District Enrolled K-12 Pupil and To Offer An Equivalent Fare to the Required Parent/Caregiver Escort of a K-12 Pupil Using A-C Transit**

**WHEREAS**, the Oakland Unified School District (“District”) and Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (“A C Transit”) recognize a responsibility to serve the citizens of Oakland for the betterment of the city; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has a statutory responsibility to provide transportation services to certain categories of students; and

**WHEREAS**, District and AC Transit historically have worked together to ensure students have affordable transportation to and from school; and

**WHEREAS**, AC Transit in has recently introduced the Clipper Card 31-Day Youth Pass as part of a regional transportation initiative; and

**WHEREAS**, AC Transit also has introduced a revised fare structure that, unfortunately, does not include all pre-Kindergarten to twelfth grade students in OUSD because it eliminates the youth discount at an individual’s 19<sup>th</sup> birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, the revised AC Transit fare structure is intended, in part, to eliminate fraud that has accompanied the longstanding paper passes, which are being phased out, which should result in AC Transit realizing greater revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of OUSD students are so adversely impacted by the fare structure, which represents a \$65/month increase, as to be denied access to a public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the affected students include students in Special Education, refugees to the United States., students in foster care, students in alternative education settings, and students with uncertain and unstable housing, all of whom represent some of the most at-risk and in-need students in Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, that without a high school education the economic futures of students and their communities are so severely limited that it is in the interest of all public servants to facilitate the education of all students at least through high school, and;

**WHEREAS**, there are students to whom the District has a statutory responsibility to provide transportation but who, for reasons of age or disabling condition cannot travel alone, rely on a parent/caregiver escort; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for transportation support is a family need not relegated solely to the child(ren), and;

**WHEREAS**, the safety of student riders on AC Transit is the responsibility of A C Transit and the District and in particular for students requiring a parent or caregiver escort for whom the District by law is required to subsidize transportation to insure school and school related attendance of pupil,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District calls upon the Board of AC Transit to extend the discounted fare for "youth" to all students enrolled in District's pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade program, regardless of age, and to preK-12 pupils of other districts in the AC Transit service area; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District calls upon the Board of AC Transit to offer an equivalent fare to the parent/caregiver who serves as a required escort of a student who cannot travel alone for whom the District, or any other school district, in the AC Transit service area, must by law provide subsidized transportation to same as a condition of said pupil's school and school related attendance.

Passed by the following vote:

**AYES:** David Kakishiba, Jumoke Hodge, Noel Gallo, Christopher Dobbins, Alice Spearman  
Vice President Jody London

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAINED:** None

**ABSENT:** President Gary Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted, at a Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District held on March 9, 2011.



Edgar Rakestraw, Jr.  
Secretary, Governing Board

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