

## **Task Force Minutes**

*Meeting began at 1:09 pm*

- Staff from the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) opened the meeting and introduced themselves, explained their role on the Task Force, discussed the timeline, and started introductions.
- Introductions of everyone present were made
- Selection of the Task Force Chair
- Commissioner Collins was given the authority under the law to designate the Chair of the Task Force. He designated himself as Chair and vowed to act as a neutral arbiter to ensure productive discussions take place and all opinions are considered.
- There was a general discussion about whether the law required formal motions and subsequent votes for the designation of the Chair. It does not.
- General discussion on the Open Meetings Act, the requirements and regulations that are in place by law, and expectations to be followed.
- Discussion about future Task Force Agendas
- The Task Force then moved to discuss what each member saw as the critical goal of the Task Force and what they hoped to achieve via the work of the group.
  - Paul Tyler expressed his view that it would be appropriate for Local 689 representatives to start off this discussion. Paul Tyler proceeded to give background on Local 689 and explained why they are present on this Task Force and what goals Local 689 hopes to accomplish through this Task Force. The main issue they'd like to address is Joint Employer status for the County School System.
  - Edith Patterson discussed the need to review how to best address student discipline and driver safety
  - Adam Dyson spoke of his hopes to see eight hour work days for the drivers accomplished this year. Adam Dyson also suggested to the Chair of the Task Force that the Task Force organize the topics for more productive conversations moving forward.
    - The following organization of topics was presented by Adam Dyson:
      - Driver Compensation

- 8-Hour workday
  - Retirement
  - Benefits
  - Unemployment
- Contract
  - Flexible contracting model (performance based multi-year)
  - Best practices (county vs. county)
  - Establish Standard Contractor Operating Procedures (SCOP)
  - Bus replacement schedule
- CCPS Policy
  - Driver training and certification
  - Student discipline and driver safety
  - CCPS fleet expansion
  - Electric buses
- Joint Employment
  - The Task Force generally agreed to focus on the above referenced topics to help drive the work of the group.
- Dr. Maria Navarro suggested that any shared documents/information be also posted on the Task Force webpage.
- MDL staff directed that any research/documentation that the Task Force would like shared should be sent to MDL for disseminating before the next meeting.
- The Task Force decided to continue with a hybrid option for meetings going forward. The in person meetings will be held at the Jesse Starkey Administration building and a virtual option will be provided.
- Two presentations from the general public were allowed by the Chair of the Task Force
- The presentations were from union representatives. They discussed their belief that the School System should be considered a joint employer of contracted bus operators.
- The Chair closed the meeting.

*Meeting concluded at 2:53 pm*