

**SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD ROOM**

**May 17, 2011**

**2:30-3:15**

**The committee listened to a presentation on Bus Safety by Director of Operations-Bobby Martindale, Route Specialist-Dane Babitske, and Maintenance Foreman-Doug Williamson. Bobby pointed out that the Operations department operates like any other transportation organization except that our cargo is children. Because we are transporting children safety is the number one concern and priority of the Operations department.**

**The department has one safety meeting per month. There are 32 black and yellow buses, 3 coach buses, 2 special service buses, 12 other vehicles which combine for 23 regular routes and 12 buses for trips. The department travels 1907 miles per day, 345,000 miles per 180 day school calendar year, with an additional 220,000 miles for trips including athletics, UIL, and field trips. That comes to a total of 545,000 miles per year at 9miles per gallon fuel costs the district \$180,000 annually on fuel alone.**

**Bus service is not required by state or federal law so is in fact a privilege to students and a convenience to parents. The only requirement that district asks in return is for proper bus conduct. The Dumas ISD Bus Rider Rules were distributed and reviewed by the committee. For a bus driver to properly focus on driving safely, they cannot be distracted by unruly or misbehaving students. Students received multiple warnings, but the first bus conduct report results in 3 days off of school transportation. The second bus conduct report is 10 days off of the bus, and a third conduct report means no transportation for the remainder of the school year. Bobby investigates each conduct report. Very few have escalated past the first report.**

**The committee thanked the department for their pursuit of safety for the children of the district.**