



Barnwell School District 45

Innovation – Integrity – Investment – Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barnwell School District 45 Announces New Changes to the Transportation Department

Barnwell, S.C. September 7, 2021 – Barnwell School District 45 (BSD45) would like to welcome Mr. John Hilton as the new BSD45 Transportation Supervisor. Hilton comes to the position with over 14 years of experience. Hilton has served in various transportation roles throughout his career such as bus monitor, administrative assistant, and transportation supervisor. In sharing the excitement for his new role Mr. Hilton said, “I am thankful and super excited to become a part of the Barnwell 45 family. I pray that I will have an outstanding and positive impact on the district. I’m looking forward to a great career with Barnwell.”

His vision for the department includes the following:

- Providing the safest transportation for our students
- Ensuring transportation staff are well supported and receive adequate training
- Coordinating new technology and logistics so routes run smoothly and more efficiently



BSD45 is also piloting a new transportation routing program with the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDOE) and Tyler Technologies. The five-year, multimillion-dollar contract was announced on July 22, 2020. In a statement, Tyler called it the “first-ever statewide agreement for school routing software and telematics.” This agreement represents the company’s largest transportation contract to date. Tyler’s software-as-a-service (SaaS) solutions will allow the state to cost-effectively deploy critical routing technology to participating districts in South Carolina. SCDE selected Tyler after surveying the available solutions in the market during a competitive procurement process. The technology will also capture student ridership, vehicle diagnostics, location, and driver behavior. As part of this partnership, the district will receive several new transportation components for each state-owned school bus.

- **Traversa with Advanced Routing**—Routing software with an automated process through which Traversa assigns students the best-fit stop and route based on School, Grade, Walk to Stop Distance, Map Restrictions, and Bus Stop placement.

- **Advanced AVL**—Software that works in combination with transportation department’s GPS to display physical location of vehicles on the map, allowing various vehicle alerts to be available, and give visibility to planned vs actual run information.
- **Ride 360**—A website and app that allows parents to view their student’s bus information. The District has parameters they can set to allow visibility into bus location if available from GPS.
- **My GeoTab**— A platform that provides GPS information to the district to track vehicles, set and view dashboards, look for vehicle maintenance issues, and monitor driver behavior. There is also the ability to provide important accident reconstruction information.
- **Tyler Drive**—A tablet-based solution designed to assist drivers with key functions to run their routes more efficiently. Drivers can record inspection information, receive turn-by-turn directions for their routes as they are set up in Traversa, and capture student ridership information.

“We are so excited about Mr. Hilton coming to lead our transportation department and look forward to him joining our leadership team. We are also fortunate to partner with the state for this opportunity to advance our school transportation operations,” said BSD45 Superintendent Crissie Stapleton. “We look forward to this positively impacting our bus drivers, administration, families, and students. These new technologies will allow us to streamline our communication, improve our routing capabilities, and help us make better data-informed decisions.” The Transportation Department will begin training with the new software and components in September 2021.