



Operations

Student Transportation

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As the transportation director for the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), I have a great deal of experience with many transportation issues. At CPS we are in the process of implementing a multi-stage system optimizing project with Education Logistics, Inc. (EDULOG).

CPS runs approximately 2,300 school buses using 20 separate bus contractors. CPS has used the EDULOG routing software since 1991 (which is the system used the majority of large school districts including New York City, Miami, Atlanta, the entire state of North Carolina, etc.), in large part due to its optimization capabilities. We have been working closely with EDULOG over the past year to develop an entirely new model designed specifically for working with bus contractors while maintaining routing efficiency. While the NYC Department of Education has similar software from EDULOG that their bus contractors use, the model CPS is developing is truly unique as it pushes the routing work onto the contractors, but allows CPS to maintain control of the system (and thus cost savings related to optimized routing as well as other issues such as customer service to parents, etc.)

There is no system like the one CPS is developing with EDULOG in the entire pupil transportation industry. School districts have always had to choose from the hassle of managing all of the routing functions internally (very costly with lots of overhead expense), or else outsourcing them to a bus contractor (where there is a natural conflict of interest when it comes to being efficient and using as few buses as possible).

Sincerely,

Francisco Du'Prey