



## **News Release**

### ***Veolia Builds on Industry-Leading Expertise to Win Boston School Bus Contract***

*Company to operate one of largest U.S. school bus systems*

**Lombard, IL – April 8, 2013** – Veolia Transportation CEO Mark Joseph announced this week that Boston Public Schools (BPS) and the City of Boston have awarded Veolia a contract to manage operations and maintenance for the school district's fleet. The five-year contract begins in July 2013 and has multiple contract extension options.

Boston Public Schools is a large school district, ranked 35<sup>th</sup> of 13,800 total U.S. school districts. It transports about 33,200 students to and from 228 public and parochial schools, with 762 school buses.

Under the contract, Boston Public Schools will continue to own the district's school bus fleet. Veolia will be responsible for all aspects of operations, including safety performance, training, hiring and management of employees, and vehicle maintenance. BPS has high standards for quality and the arrangement includes rigorous standards for on-time performance, safety, fleet maintenance, fuel savings, customer service, and community outreach. Veolia will be implementing a variety of real-time dashboards to monitor performance and to ensure transparency for BPS staff.

All current school bus drivers will become Veolia employees and the terms of the existing collective bargaining agreement between the current operator and the bus drivers' union, including salary and benefit packages, will remain in effect and be assumed by Veolia.

With the efficiencies that Veolia will deliver to the client under this new contract, BPS will be able to invest an additional six million dollars per year into classrooms rather than into projected transportation cost increases.

CEO of Veolia Transportation Mark Joseph said, "We are very pleased to be able to bring our skills and experience to Boston Public Schools and the City of Boston. We respect BPS' commitment to safety, efficiency, and the highest quality service and we are dedicated to achieving their high standards. We look forward to a long and successful partnership."

Dr. Carol R. Johnson, Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, stated, "Our agreement with Veolia will enable us to deliver school bus service better than ever before. Veolia brings cost efficiencies through new uses of technology, ensures a culture of safety by nearly doubling driver training and on-street safety supervision, and improving on-time performance. They have proposed technology applications to improve our schools' ability to directly monitor bus arrivals and departures, as well as

enhanced information flows to monitor and enhance performance among all stakeholders.”

The contract was awarded to Veolia following a rigorous bidding process that began with a request for proposals (RFP) encouraging service providers to outline a commitment to the highest standards for transporting charter, private, and parochial school students. Prior to the award to Veolia, the contract has been operated by First Student.

### **About Veolia Transportation**

Based in Lombard, IL, Veolia Transportation is the largest private-sector operator of multiple modes of transit in North America, including bus, rail, paratransit, shuttle, and sedan and taxi services. Veolia Transportation is committed to setting the standard in safe and sustainable mobility solutions through partnerships with cities transit authorities, airports and universities.

Visit the company's Web sites at: [www.veoliatransportation.com](http://www.veoliatransportation.com) and [www.veoliatransdev.com](http://www.veoliatransdev.com)

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