

**Subject:** Re: Bus incident today  
**From:** Steve Stein <steins@mokena159.org>  
**Date:** 4/16/2025, 7:40 AM  
**To:** Kelli MacMillan <macmillank@mokena159.org>  
**BCC:** schoolboard@mokena159.org

Good Morning Kelli,

No, it was a different driver. I mentioned in last week's brief that I have the other driver on paid leave pending our discussion in closed session.

Steve

On Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 11:15 PM Kelli MacMillan <[macmillank@mokena159.org](mailto:macmillank@mokena159.org)> wrote:  
Steve,

Was this the same bus driver as the previous two incidents?

Kelli

On Tuesday, April 15, 2025, Steve Stein <[steins@mokena159.org](mailto:steins@mokena159.org)> wrote:  
Members of the Board,

We had another bathroom incident on an MES afternoon route today. A male Kindergarten student needed to urinate so the driver stopped the bus and allowed him to go in a trash can that was on the bus. The driver stated that he sat in the seat and held the can while the child relieved himself. When the driver dropped the student at his stop he spoke with the student's father, who seemed fine with the issue. Upon finding out this information, I along with Ervin, Teri, Krisitin and Rachel spoke with the driver who stated what happened. He felt that it was his best option given the student's apparent distress. He stated there were 4 or 5 other students on the bus, including the child's second grade brother.

This group, except Ervin and the driver, called the boy's father to discuss this incident. The father was aware and was very understanding as he felt the driver was genuinely trying to help his child. He said, I have no problems, this is no big deal.

Prior to our negotiations discussion today with Mr. Fester, via Google Meets, I talked through this issue with him. Present at the discussion was, Mrs. Zielinski, Mrs. Oost, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Shaw, Mrs. Mundt, and Mrs. Pierik. John said this situation was different than our last issue on the bus and he wanted time to consider this new situation. Today's driver is off tomorrow for a sick day, so we can further discuss this tomorrow in closed session. We will meet with the drivers tomorrow to discuss these issues. I want to make you aware that the MES administration has discussed bathroom breaks prior to the end of the day with staff and students. They will emphasize this again tomorrow.

Steve

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