



BEYOND THE NUMBERS: PEOPLE, PROFESSION, PURPOSE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2026
08:50 AM - 12:00 PM

VIRTUAL

OPENING REMARKS

8:50 - 9:00

Opening remarks from MASBO Executive Director,
Margaret Driscoll

THE ROAD AHEAD: SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION IN MASSACHUSETTS—FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

9:00 - 10:15

Jay Sullivan, Massachusetts DESE, Tanya Shallop, Collins Center

You'll learn about the Collins Center report for DESE, covering key findings and recommendations to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of school transportation.

OVERVIEW OF MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN ENERGY CENTER SCHOOL BUS ADVISORY PROGRAM

10:15 - 11:00

Sam Betts Ricco, VEIC

You'll discover that Massachusetts districts can get up to \$50,000 in free MassCEC consulting (with VEIC and PowerOptions) to plan an electric school bus transition. This session covers the six-month, non-binding process—routes, charging, financing, grants, and stakeholder engagement—and how it supports cost-effective electrification decisions for districts that run or contract their fleets.

SHOW ME THE MONEY: OVERVIEW OF MA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANTS

11:00 - 11:30

Judith Crocker, Massachusetts Safe Routes to Schools

You'll gain knowledge of the MassDOT's Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Program helps Massachusetts schools improve safety and access for K-12 students who walk and roll. This session covers the Signs and Lines, Infrastructure, and Bike Rack Grants, plus application resources, timelines, webinars, and guidance documents.

INSIDE DESE ON-SITE FISCAL REVIEWS: WHAT EVERY SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD KNOW

11:30 - 12:00

Joe Valchuis, MSA, CFE, Audit Supervisor, Massachusetts DESE

You'll bring back to your district an overview of DESE on-site fiscal reviews — what's examined, including internal controls, financial management, and federal grant compliance.

