

**COST SAVINGS AND LIABILITY  
MANAGEMENT IN SPECIAL NEEDS  
TRANSPORTATION**

Tim Ammon

Pete Meslin, Newport-Mesa USD

Alex Robinson, NAPT President-Elect

Launi Schmutz, Washington County School District

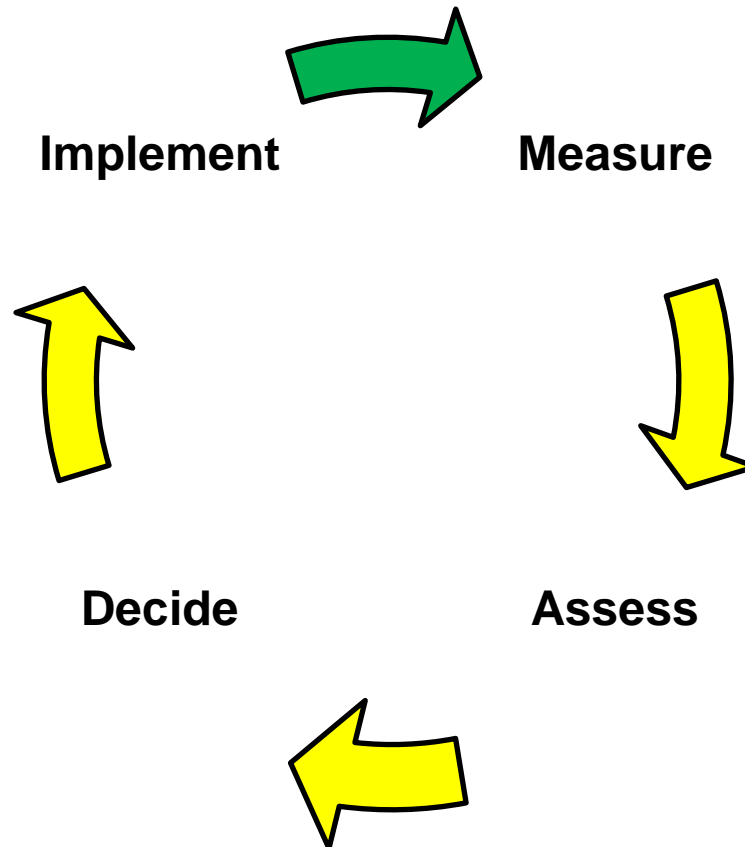
July 26, 2010

# WHAT DO WE THINK ABOUT SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION?

- Expensive
- Resource intensive
- Disruptive
- Complex and complicated
- Entangled by legal expectations and requirements
- Growing proportionally
- Etc, etc, etc, etc

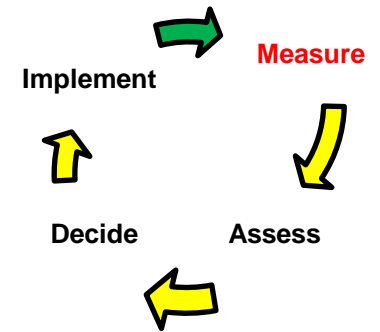


# WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION?



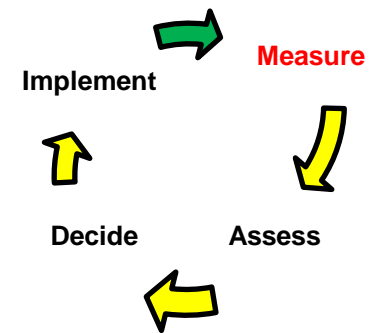
# WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION?

- STN survey, PASBO survey, MSBO survey provide quantification of thoughts and costs
- Costs are 8 to 10 times regular education student
- Cost vary dramatically even within limited geographic areas
- Transportation directors feel disconnected from the IEP process
- Program location is dramatically impacting transportation requirements



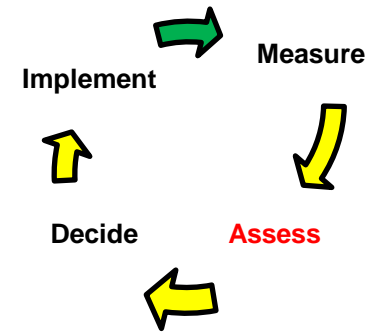
# COMPARATIVE INDICATORS

- Michigan
  - \$6,219 median; range from \$5,265 to \$9,554
  - Almost 10 x more expensive; 14% increase in two years
- Pennsylvania
  - \$5,374 average; range from \$1,142 to \$15,046
  - Average 24% of total transportation costs for < 10% of students
- MPS history
  - Costs consistently 8 to 10 x as much
  - Highly regional baseline with a consistent spread



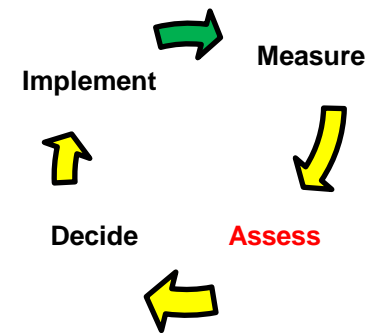
# WHAT MUST YOU DO?

- What is a related service?
- IDEA, 504 and FAPE requirements
- IEP
- Staff training? Personnel assignments?



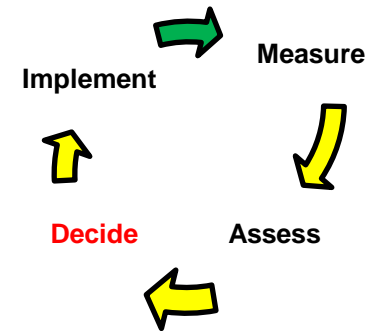
# COST CONTROL QUESTIONS?

- Can I consider cost?
- Where are the students going?
- When do they have to be there?
- How do students get to their stop?
- What do they need to ride on the bus?
- Who do I need to ride on the bus?
- Do I need to transport them?

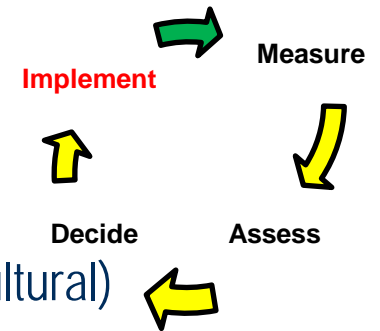


# CONSIDERING YOUR OPTIONS

- One bus, one road
- Stop locations
- Ride tolerances
- Organizational strategies
- Operational strategies



# YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE



- Implementation plan (what are you going to do?)
  - What changes will you make (organizational, operational, cultural)
  - What do you expect the outcome to be?
- Transition plan (how are you going to do it?)
  - What tasks are you going to perform? How long will they take?
  - What resources do you need? Who owns them? When do you need them?
  - Who needs to be involved? What is their availability? What is the window?

