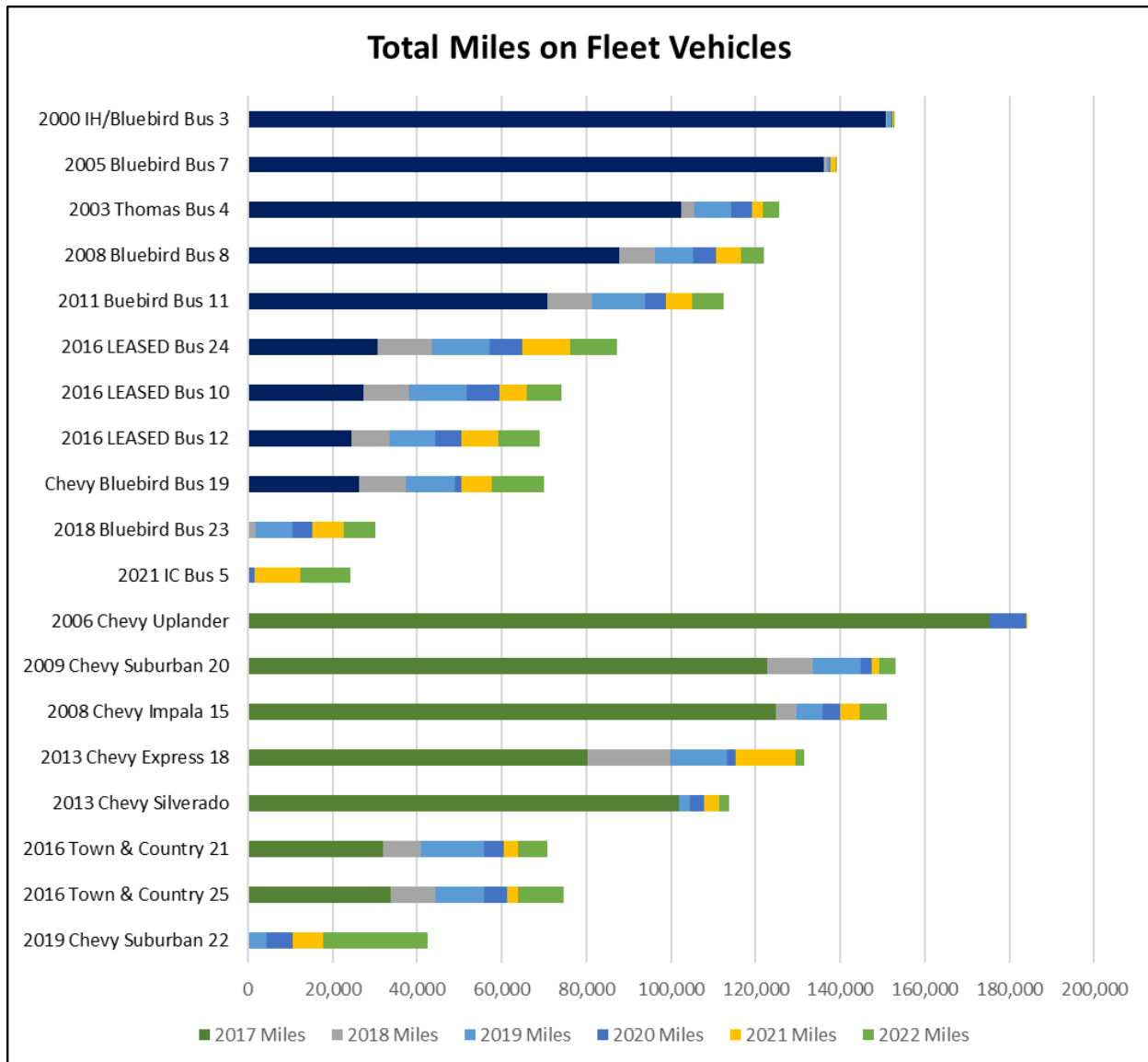


## Purchasing a School Bus

### Background:

Our transportation fleet of vehicles is in very good condition as evidenced in the graph below:



We run six routes each day. As of last August, we had six buses with fewer than 100,000 miles.

However, with supply chain issues still a problem two years after the pandemic, we chose to order an additional school bus, anticipating nine months or more for delivery.

**No New Bus Coming**

Last summer, the school board approved a bus purchase from Hoglund Bus. They were the low bidder when I did competitive bids. But Hoglund did not process our order. Now we have no bus coming, and Hoglund will no longer honor their bid.

**Buying Gasoline Buses**

The loss of our order was likely a blessing in disguise. We ordered a diesel bus, and diesels are on the way out. The new emission systems for diesel engines are high maintenance and very expensive. Likely by 2027, there will be no diesel buses available any more.

Neighboring district around us have been buying gasoline buses the last couple of years. We are behind times.

School buses remain eight months out for delivery. I would like to order a new bus this spring for delivery next January, and I would like to order only from Blue Bird, rather than letting competitive bids. Blue Bird is the only bus vendor with gas buses right now.

Specifications appear on the next page.

**Recommended Action:**

I recommend the board move to approve the purchasing specifications for this new school bus.



## Belmond-Klemme Community School District

411 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast, Belmond, Iowa 50421

Voice: 641-444-4300; Fax 641-444-4079

Thursday, May 11, 2023

### Request for Proposals on a New School Bus

To Whom It May Concern:

The Belmond-Klemme Community School District of Belmond, Iowa, is currently in the market for a high-capacity school bus to primarily transport students on routes within the school district.

For this bidding process, I submit the additional specifications listed below for the two integral components of the bus:

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>REQUIRED SPECIFICATION</b>
Engine	<b>Ford 7.3L Gasoline Engine, with 350 HP minimum</b>
Capacity	Body Type C with 65 Passenger Seat Plan
Lettering on Body	Belmond-Klemme Community School District
Alternator	200+ preferred; 175 AMP minimum
Block Heater	750 watts minimum
Battery	2,100 CCA minimum
Bumpers	12" Width, one piece, die-formed with ribbed front and rear
Steering	Power Steering, Tilt & Telescoping Wheel
Tires and Wheels	Front: 11 R 22.5 Hwy Tread Rear: 11 R 22.5 Mud & Snow Tread
Transmission	Automatic—Allison PTS-2500 or 3000 or compatible
Heater	90,000 BTU Left Front 50,000 BTU Rear Underseat with Heater Booster Pump or Water Re-circulating Pump
Vandal Locks	Locking system for all doors
Strobe Light	LOW Profile mounted four feet from rear of bus
Exterior Lighting	LED Lighting
Exterior Mirror	Heated
Radio	AM/FM/CD with internal PA system & six speakers minimum
Security Cameras	REI system installed with three camera minimum

If you have any questions or concerns, call the numbers above. Or you may contact me by email at [dan.frazier@bkcsd.org](mailto:dan.frazier@bkcsd.org). Thank you.

Yours truly,

Dan Frazier  
Superintendent