



Operations Department

Date: 3/6/2025
To: Board of Education
From: Brian Lieber, Director of Operations
Re: New Large Area Mower Purchase

Purchase Information

Cost: \$68,794
Vendor: Omnia Partners - Cooperative Bidding Site
Source of Funds: General Fund (part of the revised budget)

Description of Need

Our current method for mowing large areas involves using a tractor to tow a mower, which is slow and inefficient. There are faster and more efficient alternatives available. A large zero turn style mower would allow us to cover ground more quickly and move between buildings with greater ease, increasing overall mowing productivity each week. Additionally, the new mower would use about half the fuel.

Recommendation

I recommend purchasing a large-area mower from Exmark for \$68,794. While there are other options from different manufacturers, they are significantly more expensive and include features we don't require. We expect this unit to last 4-5 years. Our current mowing setup has been unreliable and may not last another full season. I plan to purchase a second unit in 3 years so that we have a backup. We will also purchase less of the smaller mowers we have as these large area mowers will eliminate the need for the 10 smaller mowers we have. We would likely only need 3-4 smaller mowers with 2 large area mowers.

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