Livonia Public Schools

District Services

Date: November 5, 2026

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: Jeff Burnside, Director of Operations and District Services

Re: Approval of Fleet Replacement

I would like to bring forward a recommendation to purchase seven buses for discussion at the November 9, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Background

As part of our ongoing fleet replacement plan, Livonia Public Schools is recommending the purchase of seven new gasoline-powered buses, including four 30-passenger Blue Bird Micro Bird minibuses and three wheelchair-accessible buses.

These vehicles will replace our existing 2017 minibuses and 2018 wheelchair-accessible buses, which have reached or exceeded 100,000 miles. This purchase continues our efforts to maintain a safe and reliable transportation fleet while systematically replacing aging vehicles.

The district is also continuing its transition toward gasoline-powered buses due to the maintenance, downtime, and operating cost advantages compared to diesel models.

We have worked with Holland Bus Company since 2013 and have found them to provide excellent customer service, parts support, and warranty-related road service. Maintaining consistency with our existing Blue Bird fleet also allows our mechanics to utilize their experience and our current parts inventory, improving maintenance efficiency.

We will continue partnering with CIS Auctions, a company we have worked with for more than 10 years, to auction the buses being replaced.

Recommendation

We recommend approval of the lowest responsible bid, submitted by Holland Bus Company of Holland, Michigan, for the purchase of seven gasoline-powered buses at a total cost of **$997,888**, as detailed below:

- Four Blue Bird Micro Bird minibuses: $459,544 ($114,886 per bus)
- Three wheelchair-accessible buses: $538,344 ($179,448 per bus)

This purchase will allow the district to continue its established replacement plan while maintaining fleet consistency, improving reliability, and reducing long-term maintenance concerns.

Funding for this purchase will be provided through the Bond Fund.

Please include this item on the upcoming agenda. Thank you for your consideration.

Attachment

Cc**:** Board of Education

JB/AS