



Livonia Public Schools

District Services

Date: March 14, 2026

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: William Green, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and District Services

Re: Approval of Fleet Replacement

I would like to bring forward a recommendation to purchase seven propane buses for discussion at the March 16, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Background

We are proposing the purchase of six passenger buses (29–30 capacity) and one 18-passenger special needs bus from Holland Bus Company. Although Holland did not submit the lowest responsible bid, they are the only vendor offering propane buses, which currently make up the majority of the district's fleet. Additionally, the district is receiving funding through the Clean Air Act Grant to support this purchase. Propane buses provide cleaner operation, with near-zero emissions and reduced environmental impact.

These buses will replace our 2017 models, all of which have reached or exceeded 100,000 miles and have experienced recurring transmission issues. Those units were previously purchased from Starcraft. After consulting with the district's Garage Supervisor, we determined that transitioning to Blue Bird buses is in the district's best interest. Our mechanics are already familiar with Blue Bird equipment, and our garage maintains an inventory of Blue Bird parts, which will support more efficient repairs and maintenance.

Recommendation

Standardizing our fleet with a single manufacturer is expected to create long-term maintenance efficiencies and cost savings. The total purchase cost is **\$982,511**, broken down as follows:

- **Six propane passenger buses:** \$824,532 (per-bus cost: \$137,422)
- **One special needs propane bus:** \$157,979

Funding for this purchase includes **\$385,132** from the Clean Bus Energy Grant and **\$597,379** from Bond funds.

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

Attachment

cc: Board of Education

WG/AS