



Livonia Public Schools

Operations

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations

Date: July 21, 2021

Re: Bus Purchase – 2021 Bond

I would like to discuss a recommendation to purchase six special needs buses at the July 26, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting. The Transportation Supervisor, Fleet Garage Supervisor, District Accountant, Finance Director, and I have worked together to make this purchase using 2021 Bond funding. These six 71-passenger special needs wheelchair buses, three gasoline and the other three propane, will be built to order and added to our fleet. Additionally, we will retire the last two 2007 old tech diesel 77-passenger general education buses from the fleet. Because of this, LPS has qualified for the 2021 Clean Diesel Program Grant through the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to be reimbursed \$73,529.00. We must first pay for the entire cost of the new buses and then LPS will be reimbursed the funds.

This purchase is part of the ongoing effort to keep our bus fleet up-to-date and moving towards cleaner energy options. Once we take receipt of the six buses, we will look to sell six of our current 2014 special needs wheelchair buses. When that occurs, our overall fleet will have been reduced by two 77-passenger general education buses, which the team has determined will not be needed in the foreseeable future.

This proposed purchase would take place through the Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) bus purchasing program which fulfills the District's purchasing requirements. Attached are two quotes, one for three gasoline special needs buses and the other for three propane special needs buses. Three companies are quoted, but only Holland sells Bluebird buses, which is the only bus in the District fleet. Additionally, Bluebird is the manufacturer who is in partnership with Ford and Roush to build CleanTech propane buses, which we have previously purchased. The total cost for this recommended purchase is \$705,492.00.

Please include this item on the agenda. Thank you.

PF/ko

Attachment

c: Board of Education