



UNITED TOWNSHIP

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30

To: Board of Education
From: Janice Roome, Comptroller
CC: Dr. Jay Morrow, Michael Van Belle
Date: December 8, 2025
Re: Permission to purchase two new buses for the 2026-2027 school year

Background Information

Transportation Supervisor Michael Van Belle would like permission to purchase two new 2027 71-passenger gasoline buses. We would trade in two 71-passenger buses (2018 & 2020 models with mileage above or approaching 100,000 and needing consistent maintenance). If approved, the new buses would be received during the 2026-2027 school year.

Administrative Considerations

The last several times we have gone through the bid process for buses, there has been only one bidder, Central States Bus Sales, Inc., Oswego, IL. The state has already gone through the bidding process and has a contract with Central States Bus Sales, Inc. We are able to purchase buses under that contract through our membership in the Sourcewell purchasing cooperative without going through the bid process again. Buses purchased for the past two school years were purchased in this manner.

Options Considered

We have typically purchased two buses per year, but only purchased one last year. We would like to purchase two for 2026-2027 due to the mileage and maintenance issues of two of our current buses. The purchase of two buses was expected due to the increase in number of students, number of double runs on many routes, and the high mileage of some buses. The quoted price received is \$157,890 each (see attached quote) which includes all fees, camera system, and five-year warranty. The quoted discount for the two trade-ins is \$47,000. The trade-in received for the buses purchased this year was \$20,000. The total net cost is \$268,780.

Fund Source

The buses will be paid for from the 2026-2027 Transportation Fund budget.

Recommendation

We recommend the Board of Education approve the purchase of two new gasoline buses for school year 2026-2027 under the state purchasing contract, including the trade-in of two regular buses.