Minidoka County School District **Transportation RFP Update #3** June 18, 2018

Timeline

The following timeline of events shows the progress that has been made in gathering information.

- May 31 Transportation Survey We sent out a survey of nine questions to various district and received 15 responses. The questions are listed below.
- June 4 Transportation RFP Review Meeting We held our second RFP Review Meeting inviting a community member, special education representative and a principal as outlined in the RFP. We reviewed a draft report of the committee's progress, the survey responses and, after some discussion, determined that we did not have enough information concerning the State reimbursements for contract busing to make a decision.
- June 6 Transportation Consultant Meeting Ryan Edwards and Dr. Cox met with Miranda Carson, the West Ada Transportation Liaison. She has worked in a number of schools district transportation departments developing routes and managing contracts. Together we developed a list of needs to improve our Transportation Department and services that Ms. Carson could provide.
- June 11 Transportation RFP Review Meeting We held our third meeting and invited Doug Scott, Region IV Student Transportation Specialist from the State. Mr. Scott was able to point us in the right direction to determine how much of a reimbursement we would get from the State if we went to contract busing. We also discussed the need to analyze 1) the financial cost to the District, 2) the impact on our employees, and 3) to look at the other implications this decision would have in the community. We will review the numbers we have and compile them to get a complete financial picture before our next meeting on July 9 where we hope to come to a decision before the July 16 Board meeting.

Survey Questions

The following are the questions that were sent out to various districts.

How long have you been using contract busing? Is contract busing more or less expensive? If so, can you give some examples? Can you give some examples of why how contract busing is more/less expensive? What are the positives/advantages of using contract busing? What are the negatives/disadvantages of using contract busing? What are the challenges/advantages with contract busing in filing state reports? How are student discipline issues on the buses handled? How do you handle complaints about bus services with parents/students? How do you handle complaints about bus services with District or building level staff?

Conclusion

We will be finalizing funding options and putting them into the State formula spreadsheet to have some effective comparisons for our next meeting.