

Memo

To: Vicksburg Board of Education

From: Karen McKinstry, Director of Transportation

Date: February 5, 2016

Re: Bus Purchase Recommendation

Enclosed you will see a list of our current inventory of school buses. I have put together a chart so we can see how things will look as long as we stay with the plan to keep our fleet 10 years young.

We are requesting to replace 8 general education buses this year. We will hold off on a special education bus with a lift for the next purchase year (2019).

Our goal is to always have 6 regular buses to use as subs so we can continue to accommodate our athletics and club events. You will see some years in the projections will have more. Sometimes we keep a bus for parts. We typically do not make any money by trading in old busses. We use all of the parts possible for bus repairs, then we will scrap the remainder for the current recycling price.

With Board approval, we will complete the purchase through the MSBO School Bus Purchasing Cooperative, as we have in the past, with a total purchase price of \$692,584. We expect to take delivery of the new busses in July or August, and will complete the financing later this spring or early summer.

In addition, we had 3 vans, but have just retired one. We would like to replace the vans with Suburbans or similar SUV's to help with the transportation needs of small teams with equipment. These will provide excellent cargo space for equipment, and will handle well in winter conditions. Coaches often take the smaller teams and their equipment in these vehicles. These vehicles cost less to operate, and with the shortage of drivers, will help keep drivers on their routes.

We will be making a specific recommendation for the purchase of two Suburbans (or equivalent) later this spring. We estimate the total purchase cost to be approximately \$100,000-\$110,000.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.