



Date: September 2nd, 2025

To: Dr. Robert Halverson, Superintendent of Schools
East Aurora School District 131 Board of Education

From: Gladys Delucio, Director of Transportation

Subject: It is recommended the district enter into a 3-year agreement with First Alt powered by First Student transportation services for our McKinney Vento students.

Justification:

East Aurora School District 131 is pleased to recognize the success of our partnership with First Alt during the 2024-2025 school year. First Alt, powered by First Student, a recognized leader in school bus transportation solutions, has provided innovative and reliable services that meet the evolving needs of our students.

Considering the success of this partnership, East Aurora School District 131 proposed to extend our current (1) one year agreement with First Alt to a (3) three-year contract. This extension would align with our existing First Student contract, allowing both agreements to be renewed simultaneously and providing continuity of service for our students and families.

Board Policy and Past Practices:

Pursuant to Board Policy 4:60, Supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 must comply with the State law bidding procedure, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, unless specifically exempted including (vii) purchase and contracts for the use, purchase, delivery, movement, or installation of data processing equipment, software, or services and telecommunications and interconnect equipment, software and services.

Strategic Plan:

This recommendation supports Strategic Goal #2, Operational Excellence that states the following: *East Aurora School District 131 will align and utilize systems and resources that promote operational excellence, efficiency, and fiscal accountability.*

Financial Impact:

See attached information

Supporting Data:

See Attached information

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Board of Education enter into a (3) three-year agreement with First Alt powered by First Student for transportation services for our McKinney Vento students.



EAST AURORA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 131

Transportation Department
310 Seminary Ave · Aurora IL 60505
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Timeline for Decision

September 2nd, 2025

2ND AMENDMENT TO EXTENSION OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AMENDMENT is made and entered into as of the 03rd day of July, 2025 by and between East Aurora School District 131 with principal offices at 310 Seminary Ave, Aurora, IL 60505("District") and First Student, Inc. with its national headquarters at 191 Rosa Parks Street, 8th Floor, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (each a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties").

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into that certain Pupil Transportation Services Agreement dated March 20,2020, as amended ____ day of February 2024, as amended (hereinafter the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to amend certain portions of the Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties mutually agree as follows:

1. ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES SCOPE OF WORK AND COMPENSATION

The Parties agree that beginning on August 1, 2025, and continuing through the term of the Agreement, Contractor shall provide the Alternative Transportation Services upon terms and rates set forth in Exhibit A.

The Parties agree that the Alternative Transportation Services will be provided by subcontractors. Alternative Transportation Service is subject to subcontractor availability. Failure to provide transportation upon request due to subcontractor unavailability shall not be deemed a default. No liquidated damages or penalties shall be levied with respect to the Alternative Transportation Services.

2. TERMINATION

In the event of Contractor default in the provision of the Alternative Transportation Services added by this Amendment, District shall provide Contractor with thirty (30) days' notice of the default and an opportunity to cure. If such default is not remedied within thirty (30) days, District shall have the right to terminate this Amendment for cause. Either party may terminate this Amendment for convenience upon not less than sixty (60) days prior written notice to the non-terminating party. In the event of termination of this Amendment for cause or convenience, the remainder of the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

- 3. NOTICE TO PARTIES** All notices to be given by the parties to this Agreement shall be in writing and serviced by depositing same in the United States Mail, certified mail or by electronic mail (email) if email address if the email address is provided below:

Notices to District shall be addressed to:

East Aurora School District 131

Administrative Center

310 Seminary Avenue

Aurora, IL 60505

Notices to CONTRACTOR shall be addressed to:

First Student, Inc
2103 S. El Camino Real, Ste. 104B
Oceanside, CA 92054
Gregg.prettyman@firstgroup.com

With a copy to (via US Mail only):

General Counsel
First Student, Inc.
191 Rosa Parks Street
8th Floor
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Except as amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been signed and executed in duplicate on behalf of the parties hereto by persons duly authorized on the day and year first written above.

First Student, Inc.

[District]

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

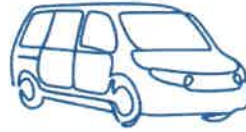
Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A. Pricing Overview

The pricing matrix includes the associated fees for the following vehicle types:



PROPOSED PRICING	
BASE TRIP ELEMENTS	CHARGE
Trip Minimum	\$69.00
Mileage Included in Trip Minimum	5 miles
Cost Per Mile > Miles Included	\$2.65
ADDITIONAL TRIP ELEMENTS – AS NEEDED	CHARGE
Equipment Service Fee <small>(Car Seat, Booster, Safety Vest, Buckle Guard, Etc.)</small>	\$5.00
Camera Fee <small>(With District approval)</small>	\$2.00
Wheelchair Service Fee	\$50.00
Monitor Fee <small>(Per hour, 2-hour minimum)</small>	\$30.00
District Approved Wait Time <small>(Per hour, billed in 15-minute increments)</small>	\$60.00
Late Cancel <small>(Less than two hours prior to scheduled pick-up time)</small>	Full Price of Trip
No-Show <small>(100% of the students on a trip are not present)</small>	Full Price of Trip

TRIP ELEMENTS AND PRICING DEFINITIONS

All pricing is applied per one-way trip and not per student. The trip minimum also includes as many students as can be routed into the vehicle. Most vehicles carry one to four students.

As additional students are added to existing routes there is no additional charge other than any additional mileage over the included mileage or needed equipment. Vehicle type and capacity are determined by student requirements and vehicle availability.

The district will only be charged for miles incurred while a student or monitor is on board the vehicle. When no student or monitor is on board the vehicle, no mileage charges will be assessed.

Trip Charges

One-way transportation from home-to-school (inbound trip) or school-to-home (outbound trip) with a student or monitor continually on board. A trip is a collection of students combined into one vehicle with all pick up/drop off and other needs accounted for. Customers are billed on a per trip basis. A trip may contain any of the following: a single student, multiple students, monitor, special equipment. Billable elements of a trip may include - a trip minimum fee, trip mileage, monitor, equipment, and any other applicable considerations. The total number of trips a district is charged for is determined by adding together each of the one-way trips.

Trip Minimum

The minimum charge for any trip regardless of miles, equipment, etc.

Mileage Charges

The district will only be charged for miles incurred while a student or monitor is on board the vehicle. When no student or monitor is on board the vehicle, no mileage charges will be incurred. Mileage charges are calculated on driving distance through a third-party provider such as Google or MapQuest. We determine the mileage based on the most efficient route for the district and students. The total mileage is rounded up to the next whole mile. All mileage will be calculated based on approved student and school addresses provided by the district. When monitors are riding on the vehicle the mileage rate will continue until the monitor is returned to their point of origin.

Miles Included

The number of miles included in the trip minimum. If additional students are added to a trip and the miles remain under the "miles included" number, no additional charge will be incurred.

Wheelchair Vehicle

An additional cost is charged when a wheelchair vehicle is required, the cost is applied per wheelchair.

Student Equipment

Per student/per trip cost for students requiring additional equipment such as a car seat, safety vest, etc.

Monitor

If the district provides the monitor, there is no additional monitor charge, other than any additional mileage that might be added to the trip. A monitor charge (per trip) will be applied for any monitor supplied by FirstAlt, in addition to any added mileage to the trip.

Standard Wait Time

Drivers will wait three minutes past the regular scheduled pick-up time if students are not ready for pick-up at the scheduled pick-up time. If the students are still not ready after the three minutes of wait time, the student will be marked as a no-show and the driver will move on to their next scheduled stop.

When returning home, if the parents or responsible party are not available to receive the student, we will contact the responsible party by phone for further instructions. If they are unavailable, we will contact the school district for instructions. If we are directed to return the student to school or are unable to reach either party, we will return the student to a school district representative at the student's school.

If we contact the school district and are advised to wait onsite, we will then bill according to the school district's approved wait time.

District Approved Wait Time

Wait time will only be charged upon the district's request and/or approval. Wait time will be billed per hour, in 15-minute increments. Wait time is utilized when a district requests a driver to wait at the home or school beyond the scheduled pick-up/drop-off time.

No-Shows and Late Cancells

Late Cancel

A late cancel charge is incurred when FirstAlt has been notified of a trip cancellation less than two hours prior to the scheduled pick-up time.

No-Shows

A no-show is incurred once the driver has arrived at the pick-up location within the scheduled pick-up window and having waited the designated time to pick-up the student, no student is present. A trip is marked as a no-show when 100% of the students on a trip are not present. All trips will remain active unless the district indicates otherwise.

Travel Time

Per most school district and state standards, the expected travel time for students we are transporting will not exceed one hour for each one-way trip unless approved by the school district. However, we fully understand some children may live quite a distance from school, have adverse weather, traffic or other unusual conditions, and therefore will need more than one hour of travel time.

ADDING AND REMOVING STUDENTS

We recognize that a district's student transportation needs are constantly changing. Examples include new students needing transportation, students moving out of the district or to a new address within the district, students no longer needing transportation, etc. When it becomes necessary to make changes to a previously routed trip, FirstAlt will provide the district with the updated details including the updated cost of trip, the new order of student pick-ups and the updated pick-up times. FirstAlt will then await district approval of the cost impact before proceeding.

New student transportation requests or changes to existing trips often take up to two (2) business days, and at times may take up to three (3) business days to implement. If FirstAlt staff believes the requested addition or change could take more than three (3) business days, we will communicate with the school district to determine a reasonable amount of time.

STUDENT CANCELLATIONS

There are two types of student cancellations, temporary and permanent.

Temporary Student Cancellation

If a student is sick or will not be attending school temporarily (5 days or less), the parent or district can reach out to FirstAlt directly to make this request. If a student is a single rider and is temporarily cancelled there will be no trip charge. If the student is part of a multiple rider trip, the district will be charged the normal trip rate.

Permanent Student Cancellation

The permanent cancellation of a student from a trip requires district notification and approval. If the student is a single rider, then the trip will be permanently cancelled, and no additional costs will be incurred by the district. If the student is part of a multi-rider trip, FirstAlt will consolidate the route, remove any mileage or equipment charges associated with the cancelled student and provide the district with the updated trip and cost information.

HARD TO SERVICE TRIPS

If a particular trip is determined to be "hard to service," FirstAlt will work closely with the district to determine the best method to service these trips and what additional costs will be needed to assist drivers in servicing these trips. Examples might include students that urinate or vomit on a regular basis during the trip, trips that are in remote service areas, etc. The purpose of this additional pricing is to provide FirstAlt and the district with a method and approach to service trips that include exceedingly challenging circumstances.

AMENDMENT OF RATES

Rates for services provided under this agreement shall be adjusted at an increased rate of 3% each year.

FUEL SURCHARGES

When the average fuel price exceeds \$5.00 per gallon, the mileage rate will be increased by calculating 50% of the fuel price that exceeds \$5.00 and adding it to the base mileage rate. Thus, if the price of fuel, according to the average fuel price index, is \$5.60, the increase would be 50% of the 60 cents or 30 cents. Such surcharges apply for the miles included in the ride base price. The fuel price index to be used shall be found under the category of "[Your Specific State or Region] U.S. and an Average Fuel Prices (dollars per gallon) to be calculated from the following website: https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_gnd_dcus_sca_w.htm

