



Board Action Required X

No Action Required

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To: Coppel ISD Board of Trustees  
From: Sid Grant  
Date: June 9, 2010

cc: Dr. Jeff Turner, Melody Paschall, Kelly Penny, Montie Parker, Debbie Gauntt

**Re: Mini Van Purchase Request**

The Department of Intervention Services is recommending the purchase of two additional mini vans for use in the Pathways Program. The following verbiage is the specific request made by Debbie Gauntt, Transition and Dyslexia Coordinator:

Based on projected growth and anticipated program needs of our adult students and Campus/Community Pathways students, dedicated use of passenger vans will be critical to successful outcomes and Individual Educational Plan goal completion. During the 2009-2010, on average, we served 10 students in the Pathways Program. We plan to begin the new 2010-2011 year serving 19 students in community-based instruction and work-based learning activities to include a variety of job sites, almost doubling our enrollment. In the past, the Pathways staff has utilized Dallas County Transportation buses to arrange transportation needs. However, access and availability has been very challenging as these same buses are needed for district bus routes, field trips, athletic events, etc. The purchase of two dedicated passenger vans for our students of special programming needs would greatly increase flexibility with regard to a variety of job sites we could visit, community-based instruction and work-based learning activities. Without the use of vans, the department of intervention services must rely on transportation department route system and significant increased costs for hiring drivers and monitors for each route. This would ultimately cost the Department of Intervention Services a great deal more and provide significantly decreased levels of flexibility. Dedicated use of new vans would allow our staff to engage students in authentic community learning with appropriate transportation accommodations. Many of the buses currently used are not equipped with air conditioning which presents health risks for many of our special needs students who over heat easily and temperature control is a primary consideration.

Given that we will utilize bond funds, we recommend purchasing these vehicles in this fiscal year. The cost is approximately \$20,000 each through the TASB BuyBoard purchasing cooperative. Additionally, this will enable the vans to be available for immediate use at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Coppel ISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of two (2) minivans through TASB BuyBoard at the total approximate cost of \$40,000.