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To: Board of Education  
Dr. Jon Bartelt

From: Ms. Valerie Varhalla

Re: Regular Transportation Contract Renewal

Date: April 28, 2025

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**Background:**

First Student provides transportation for Bloomington School District 13 regular education students. The Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/29-6.1 allows for school districts to extend a transportation contract thereafter, so long as the District may not exceed 10 years.

**Situation:**

Bloomington School District 13, when possible, shares its routes with Lake Park High School 108 and Medinah School District 11. Pairing the routes in this configuration allows the District to share services and save taxpayer dollars. First Student has issued an offer to extend the contract by 5 years with the following increase:

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5 Year Renewal

12 yr Max Vehicle Age

12% + 10% + 5.5% + 4% + 4%

	Current	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
AM/PM Routes	\$ 202.84	\$ 227.18	\$ 249.90	\$ 263.64	\$ 274.19	\$ 285.16
AM/PM Kindergarten Routes	\$ 140.15	\$ 156.97	\$ 172.66	\$ 182.16	\$ 189.45	\$ 197.03
Band Bus (Thursday Only)	\$ 75.62	\$ 84.69	\$ 93.16	\$ 98.29	\$ 102.22	\$ 106.31

Some of the main reasons for the above increases include vehicle replacement, driver wage increases, driver hourly guarantee, and market rate. As costs are essential when considering such an offer, it is important to note that First Student Bus Company has provided safe and quality service to our students.

**Recommendation:**

This is a discussion item so no recommendation is being made by the Administration.