

January 22, 2024

To: Josh Swanson
From: Business Office
Re: Advance Capital Purchases

The district is requesting permission to purchase 6 buses and 1 van in advance of the adoption of the fiscal year 2025 capital budget so they arrive as close to start of the school year as possible. It is best practice to start the school year with our bus fleet intact for the following reasons:

1. Students will have a consistent bus number the entire year.
2. Bus drivers will practice routes and train on a consistent vehicle.
3. Mechanic time is not wasted prepping older buses that will be replaced in a few months.

Current Fleet Statistics:

1. 101 buses, 6 student transportation vans and 1 mobile classroom bus in the fleet.
2. With this purchase, 4 regular education buses will be replaced due to high mileage and increasing maintenance costs.
3. With this purchase, 2 special education buses will be replaced due to high mileage and increasing maintenance costs.
4. With this purchase the district courier van will be replaced.

Vehicle purchases will be made from the state contract, so bidding is not required. The estimated cost of the vehicles is \$941,000.00 and funding for all vehicles will be provided through a combination of the annual operating capital budget and capital project levy.