



North Boone

Community Unit School District 200

Transportation Purchases FY27
March 17, 2026 BOE Meeting

Dr. Joe Mullikin
Executive Director of Business Services

Current Fleet



**21 Yellow Buses (IC)
6 Wheel Chair Buses (3 IC
& 3 Chevy)**



**2 White Buses (inc. transit
van)
3 Minivans (All Chrysler
Pacifcas)**

Options for FY27 & Long-Term Planning

- **Current Reality**
 - We have an aging bus fleet that is largely depreciated. There have been large mechanical issues this year. We do have a good fleet of minivans and white buses.
- **Work that was done**
 - We bid out the purchase and lease of new buses, along with requests for used bus pricing and extended warranties.
- **Options for FY27**
 - New bus purchases
 - Lease of new buses
 - Used bus purchase
 - No purchases, but extend warranties

Option 1: New Bus Purchase

Bid Tabulation Sheet

Project Number: #26-01

Project: 77-Passenger School Bus Purchase

BIDDING INFORMATION

| BIDDERS | INFORMATION | | | | | BASE BID |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| | SPECS | CHASSIS | ENGINE | REFERENCES | TRADE-IN | |
| Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc | X | IC | Cummins/250HP | X | \$194,000.00 | \$163,574/bus |
| Central States Bus Sales, Inc | X | Blue Bird | Cummins/250HP | X | \$194,000.00 | \$162,500/bus |
| Midwest Bus Sales, Inc. | X | Freightliner/Thomas | Cummins/220HP | X | \$62,000.00 | \$178,295/bus |

Date of Public Opening:

2/19/2026

Time of Public Opening:

10:30 AM

Individuals Present:

Dr. Matt Cascio, NBCUSD 200 Superintendent; Dr. Joe Mullikin, NBCUSD 200 Executive Director of Business Services; Matt Garr, Regional Sales Manager, Midwest Transit Equipment; Paul Michna, Regional Sales Manager, Central States Bus, Inc.; Marlon Anderson, Chicago Sales Representative, Midwest Bus Sales

Option 2: Bus Lease

Bid Tabulation Sheet

Project Number:

Project:

77-Passenger
School Bus Lease

BIDDING INFORMATION

BIDDERS

INFORMATION

BASE BID

CHASSIS

ENGINE

REFERENCES

TRADE-IN

**LEASE
MILEAGE**

ONE-YEAR

TWO-YEAR

THREE-YEAR

FIVE-YEAR

Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc

IC

Cummins/250HP

X

\$194,000.00

15,000

\$49,377 per bus
per year

\$34,234 per
bus per year

\$29,836 per bus
per year

\$29,417 per bus
per year

Central States Bus Sales, Inc

Blue Bird

Cummins/250HP

X

\$194,000.00

15,000

NO BID

NO BID

\$32,828.73 per
bus per year

\$27,160.94 per
bus per year

Midwest Bus Sales, Inc.

Freightliner/Thomas

Cummins/220HP

X

\$62,000

18,000

NO BID

NO BID

\$35,368.48 per
bus per year

\$31,622.37 per
bus per year

Notes

Midwest Bus Sales, Inc did provide pricing for three (3) and five (5) year lease terms, but did not complete the specified bid documentation for Bid #26-02.

Date of Public Opening:

Time of Public Opening:

Individuals Present:

Dr. Matt Cascio, NBCUSD 200 Superintendent; Dr. Joe Mullikin, NBCUSD 200 Executive Director of Business Services; Matt Garr, Regional Sales Manager, Midwest Transit Equipment; Paul Michna, Regional Sales Manager, Central States Bus, Inc.; Marlon Anderson, Chicago Sales Representative, Midwest Bus Sales

Option 3: Used Bus Purchase

| BIDDERS | Year | Model | Mileage | BASE BID |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc | No Inventory | No Inventory | No Inventory | No Inventory |
| Central States Bus Sales, Inc | 2024 | Blue Bird | 40-50k miles | \$122,930/bus |
| Midwest Bus Sales, Inc. | 2024 Newer | Thomas | Unknown Mileage | \$98k - \$103k/bus |

Overall Summary for Next Steps & Long-Term

| Options | General Cost | Reimbursement Method | Budget Impact |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New Bus Purchase | MTE: \$163,574/bus CSB: \$162,500/bus | Claimed through depreciation over 5 years at 20% of the principal cost. | Funding Source: Paid through Fund 40 (Transportation) capital outlay. Budget or Fund Balance: Use the fund balance that exists to purchase the buses (Approximately \$4.1 million) |
| Leasing Buses | MTE: \$29,836/bus per year (3 year) CSB: \$32,829/bus per year (3 year) | Claimed as an allowable expense through the transportation claim annually. | Funding Source: Paid through Fund 40 (Transportation) rental. Budget or Fund Balance: Budgeted with the intent to not impact the fund balance |
| Used Bus Purchase | Really none of these make sense given the costs of the used bus in comparison to the new buses. I would not advise the purchase of used buses given our other options | | |
| Alternative Option | Between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per bus to extend warranties on the chassis and other mechanical parts. <u>This does not include transmissions.</u> | No reimbursement | Funding Source: Paid through Fund 40 (Transportation) capital outlay. Budget or Fund Balance: Budgeted with the intent to not impact the fund balance |

Options & Recommendations

| Options | Net FY27 Cost | FY28/FY29 Costs | Additional Considerations |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Purchase 4 | <p>MTE: \$163,574/bus less \$152k for trade in: \$502,296</p> <p>CSB: \$162,500/bus less \$152k for trade in: \$498,000</p> | N/A | <p>We currently use IW buses and are stocked with parts for those buses. We are also exploring what maintenance plans look like with MTE for those buses to reduce costs.</p> <p><i>We would use the funds available in our fund balance to purchase the buses.</i></p> |
| Purchase 2 Lease 2 | <p>MTE: \$29,836/bus for lease & \$163,574/bus purchase less \$152k for trade in: \$234,820</p> <p>CSB: \$32,829/bus for lease & \$162,500/bus purchase less \$152k for trade in: \$238,658</p> | <p>MTE: \$119,344 per year</p> <p>CSB: \$131,316 per year</p> | <p>Mixing fleet with the purchase of 2 buses and leasing of 2 buses would be inadvisable, in my opinion.</p> <p><i>We would use the funds available in our fund balance to purchase the buses.</i></p> |
| Lease 4 | <p>MTE: \$29,836/bus less \$152k for trade in: \$32,656 in net revenue</p> <p>CSB: \$32,829/bus less \$152k for trade in: \$20,684 in net revenue</p> | <p>MTE: \$119,344 per year</p> <p>CSB: \$131,316 per year</p> | <p>We believe this cost is sustainable and we would work to get into a better rhythm moving forward with the purchase and replacement of buses.</p> |

Trading in buses #79 (95,028 mi), #80 (88,529 mi), #81 (86,326 mi), & #82 (94,095 mi) - All 2019 models