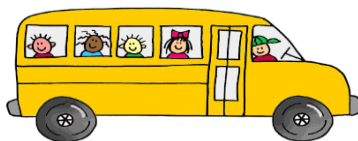


## Proposition #2 – School Bus Purchase



Proposition #2 seeks voter approval for the purchase of a 22 passenger Chevy Collins school bus and a 65 passenger IC school bus. The 22 passenger school bus will replace bus #90, a 2009 Chevy Collins with approximately 90,000 miles. The 65 passenger school bus will replace bus #87, a 2007 with approximately 110,000 miles. The District will be trading in the two older buses to offset the cost of the new buses.

The cost of the 22 passenger bus is \$55,882. The cost of the 65 passenger bus is \$103,806. The estimated local share of the cost of both buses after receiving state aid is \$36,888. **For every \$1 spent on a bus purchase the District receives approximately 76.9 cents back in transportation aid from New York State.**

The rotation schedule for buses in this District is typically around 10 years. This is a longer period than many Districts. Although our fleet is safe and inspected by the New York State Transportation Department on a regular basis there is a time limit to the useful life of a bus. In the last three years we have had two bus propositions fail. If a bus can no longer pass a DOT inspection and the District does not receive approval for bus purchases the District's option will be to enter into an emergency bus lease with a bus dealership. Since state law prohibits long term leases without voter approval, the District could only enter into a lease for one year. Each year we would need to lease a different bus with a different Vehicle Identification Number to remain in compliance with the regulations and receive state aid for the bus. This would be disruptive to the fleet and would be costly.

To give an example: The purchase price of the 65 passenger bus is \$103,806. State aid is 76.9%. Over a five year period the estimated total cost to the tax payer would be \$23,980 and we would own the bus. The lease price of the bus is \$40,800 per year. State aid is 76.9%. Over a five year period the total payment is \$47,125 and we would not own the bus. We are getting closer to the point where we may be facing this decision.

The District is approximately 64 square miles in size. We have five regular bus runs as well as bus runs that transport our students with special needs. It is a top priority for the Board of Education and school administration to keep the students safe going to and from school.