Shawnee Mission School District
RFI 25-010 – Student Transportation Services
September 15, 2025

Addendum No. 3

The following response addresses question(s) submitted by vendor(s) on September 11, 2025 and September 15, 2025; responses to the questions are indicated in **bold**. If you feel that a question has not been addressed, please contact Reed Beebe at purchasing@smsd.org as soon as possible.

1. We understand the District does not wish to share detailed route information at this point in time, but is it possible to provide an estimated average route length (in hours and miles) for the RegEd and Special Education routes?

   To clarify, RegEd bus routes typically average 12.72 miles, or 52 minutes. Special Education routes typically average 16.97 miles, or 67 minutes.

2. Does the District have a preference for passenger capacity on the buses?

   Yes, on a 71 passenger bus, 55 Elementary students and 45 max. for MS and HS.

3. Can you provide a breakdown of buses by capacity? For example, 24- Type A ambulatory, as well as quantity of other bus types on routes?

   - **16 mini vans**
   - **67 Type A**
   - **10 Type A W/C**
   - **120 Type C**
   - **14 Type C W/C**

4. Do you require trip buses in addition to route buses? If so, how many?

   The District currently has a 20% of fleet reserve for additional trips.

5. How many of the Special Education vehicles currently have lifts?

   Listed above (W/C) in question number 3.

6. Please indicate how many of the Special Education routes require aides?

   The District requires an aide on board all SpEd morning (AM) and afternoon (PM) routes.

7. Please clarify what is meant by "Driver assistance features" on page 3 of the RFI document.

   To clarify, the District is just interested in learning about any available driver assistance features offered by a firm, such as forward collision warnings, lane departure warnings, and automatic emergency breaking. At this time, the District has no fixed requirements for such features.

8. In other contracts in Kansas there is a separate daily charge for contractor-owned buses on top of a daily rate. Do you utilize this structure as well?

   The District currently pays a fixed annual overhead amount that is billed monthly throughout the school year for fixed costs (vehicle leases and site management fees, etc.), along with monthly payments for variable and ancillary (field trips, athletic trips, etc.) costs. However, the District is open to considering various fee structures, and firms are welcome to share general information about its available fee structures when addressing question number 12 in Exhibit A. The District will consider fee options in more detail with the firm(s) selected to provide proposals via this RFI process.

9. Do you have an ideal fleet age and average?

   The District currently requires that the fleet shall have an average age of no more than five (5) years, with no bus having an age greater than ten (10) years. This age is determined each school year on August 1st.

10. Will you require all buses to have A/C?

    The District is currently interested in having air conditioning on all buses. However, the District is open to discussing the best value regarding air conditioning options with selected vendors.

11. Does the District have a desired staffing model for local management, office staff, and shop staff?

    At this time, the District is open to considering various staffing models, and is seeking a staffing model that provides the best value for the District.

12. Will there be a public bid opening? May we attend virtually or in person? What information will be provided at the bid opening?

    The RFI process does not involve a public bid opening. Please see the "Response and Response Evaluation Availability" section on page 6 of the RFI.

13. Please confirm the route and bus counts: 184 GE routes using 123 buses, 215 Sped routes using 85 buses? Total 399 routes, using 208 buses? "*The District currently has approximately 184 bus routes, along with approximately 215 bus routes for special education needs. Approximately 123 buses are utilized by the District each year for regular education transportation, with approximately 85 buses utilized for special education transportation.*"

    Please see the "Clarification" section below.

14. Is one bus servicing multiple routes?

    Yes; the majority of the AM/PM routes are double and triple-tiered.

15. Is billing portal-to-portal or live-time only?

    The District currently is emailed bills on a weekly basis (for field trips, etc.) and a monthly bill for established routes. The District is open to considering online portals and live-time billing.

16. Please provide average route length (including live and dead time).

    See question number one above regarding route length. At this time, the District does not have a clear understanding of the amount of live and dead time that occurs on average for the routes. The District will continue to research this topic, and hopes to share this information with vendors selected to prepare formal proposals.

17. To ensure competitive pricing, please provide current and historical pricing from the prior 5 years.

    At this time, the District would prefer not to provide current and historical pricing, as the District is not requesting detailed pricing information from vendors at this stage of the RFI. The District is willing to share such information with the vendor finalists selected to provide more detailed proposals, which would include detailed pricing information.

18. Can the district share a preferred template or format for pricing?

    The District desires that field trip/athletic events include a trip/invoice number, any provided account coding or purchase order information, and the school from which the trip originated. For standard services, a monthly itemized listing of buses and fees is desired. However, the District is open to discussing billing in more detail with vendors that are selected to provide more detailed proposals through the RFI process.

19. Can vendors charge excess hours?

    The District is open to considering a variety of fee structures, including charges for excess hours. Such billing options can be listed in the RFI response for the District's awareness.

20. Will the district clarify what the fixed rates represent in this table? Are these monthly rates for all basic transportation, or do they cover another set of routes?

		3.00%	3.00%
Fixed Rates (Per Month-10 Month)	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**
		3.00%	3.00%
RegEd	$358,800.00	$369,564.00	$380,650.92
SpEd	$259,170.00	$266,945.10	$274,953.45
Minivan NON CDL	$59,290.00	$61,068.70	$62,900.76

    Fixed cost is the annual overhead amount specified in Section 3.A of our current student transportation services contract. The amounts change yearly based on the assumption of the fleet size for that year.

21. Does $15.4M budget include Monitors and Summer school, or just RSY transportation?

    It covers all of the above.

22. Does current contractor operate out of 1 or 2 yards?

The current contractor utilizes just one bus depot location for the District's buses.

23. Please provide the bell schedules for all grade levels, including any special programs, to help us assess route length?

Due to the current response window for the RFI, and the District's desire for general information regarding vendor capabilities, the District would prefer not to share detailed bell schedules at this time. The District is willing to share this information at a later date with vendors selected through the RFI process to prepare formal proposals. Additionally, the general school schedule is provided below:

REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS

Pre-Kindergarten-----	8:10–10:55 am & 12:25-3:10 pm
Elementary School----	8:10 am – 3:10 pm
Middle School---------	8:45 am – 3:45 pm
High School----------	7:40 am – 2:40 pm

EARLY DISMISSAL HOURS

Elementary School---------	8:10 am – 12:30 pm
Middle School ----------	8:45 am – 1:45 pm
High School----------	7:40 am – 1:10 pm

24. Please provide the past three months' invoices from the current transportation vendor, including:

    a. A summarized invoice amount with a breakdown by service category (e.g., monitors, home-to-school transportation, midday routes, field trips, etc.).

    b. A detailed breakdown at the route level, showing the live time for each route, segmented by shifts (AM, Midday, and PM).

Due to the current response window, and as the District is not asking vendors to prepare detailed pricing information at this stage of the RFI, the District would prefer not to share this information at this stage of the RFI. The District is willing to consider sharing this information at a later date with vendors selected through the RFI process to prepare formal proposals.

25. Please provide the current driver and aide/attendant wages to ensure fair and equitable compensation.

Due to the current response window, and as the District is not asking vendors to prepare detailed pricing information at this stage of the RFI, the District would prefer not to share this information at this stage of the RFI. The District is willing to consider sharing this

information at a later date with vendors selected through the RFI process to prepare formal proposals.

26. Please provide the current driver and aide/attendant guaranteed hours to ensure fair and equitable compensation.

    Due to the current response window, and as the District is not asking vendors to prepare detailed pricing information at this stage of the RFI, the District would prefer not to share this information at this stage of the RFI. The District is willing to consider sharing this information at a later date with vendors selected through the RFI process to prepare formal proposals.

27. Are bus drivers and aide/attendant unionized? If so, please share a copy of the current collective bargaining agreement. The CBA will help ensure a well-informed and strategic approach to pricing.

    The District's understanding is that the current contractor's employees are unionized. However, to the District's knowledge, the District is not in possession of the contractor's collective bargaining agreement with its employees. Furthermore, to clarify, any current contract agreements will not be shared through this RFI process. Such contracts may be requested via the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA). Such KORA requests may be emailed to David Smith at davidsmith@smsd.org.

28. How many aide/attendants are required for the scope of this RFP?

    Approximately 65.

29. What are the annual liquidated damages over the last two to three years for the areas described in the RFP?

    The District is currently unaware of any annual liquidated damages.

30. Please describe any service issues with current providers.

    Primary current industry challenges include a shortage of available buses and staffing to meet District needs.

31. Are there any driver shortages? If so, how many?

    Yes; the shortage of specific drivers is hard to estimate, but the District's current initial estimate is that approximately 20 more drivers are needed to meet District needs

32. Please confirm service days for regular school year and extended school year, listed separately.

    Regular school year 173 SMSD ESY 15 days; the District also transports to five out-of-district schools for their ESY. Those programs vary on days and length.

33. On average, how many Sped and GE routes does the district offer in the Summer, listed separately?

    35 ESY buses for Shawnee Mission School District, plus six buses for out-of-district ESY.

34. Please provide the average duration of trips (e.g. Extracurricular, Athletics, Field Trips).

    As an estimate, field trips are generally 3 hours; athletics can range up to 9 hours.

35. Are all special education routes done in Type As or Type C as well? What capacity?

    See answer to question number 3 above.

36. How many of these buses need to be lift equipped?

    See answer to question number 3 above.

37. How many wheelchair positions does the district require?

    The number varies based on the number of students being routed to a school. The District estimates an average number is 2 to 3. The District currently has one bus that has 4.

38. About how many Special Education students require special equipment such as a harness or child seat?

    All PreK students require a child seat, plus any student weighing less than 40 pounds. The District estimates that approximately 140 students require a child seat. Around 16 students require a harness. Some students require a body buckle, as well.

39. Is the district open to paying for those fueling services instead of fuel delivery to onsite tanks?

    The District's understanding is that by purchasing the fuel directly, it is able to recoup fuel taxes from the State of Kansas that the bus vendor is not able to recoup. However, if a vendor has a solution that allows the District to recoup tax

funds via a fueling service, rather than scheduling delivery to onsite tanks, the District is open to considering such services.

40. What is the spare ratio?

    Currently, 20% of the fleet is the ratio for spare/field trips/athletic events. However, the District is open to considering other spare ratios that better suite District needs and provide a better cost value.

41. Do the 123 and 85 buses utilized for Gen and Sped work include spares?

    Yes.

42. Can route buses be utilized for the 2000 off school trips?

    The District is unsure if this practice is currently followed, but the District is open to considering such a practice if it achieves a beneficial value for the District.

43. What is the maximum age of vehicles?

    See answer to question number 9 above.

44. Does the district require seatbelts on General education buses?

    No.

45. When does the district intend to award?

    As the current contract expires on August 1, 2027, the District anticipates that an award will be made no later than July 2026; however, a contract award decision may be made sooner, based on the transition needs of the final selected vendor and the District.

CLARIFICATION OF BUS ROUTES:

Based on its current understanding of existing bus routes, please note that the District is issuing the following clarification regarding the bus route information provided in the "Current Bus Routes" section on page 2 of the RFI. The number of buses dedicated to regular education (AM/PM) bus routes is 78; the number of buses dedicated to special education (AM/PM) bus routes is 66, for total of 144 dedicated AM/PM buses. The majority of these AM/PM routes are double and triple tiered.

End of Addendum No. 3