

LITTLE EGG HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION
PLAN

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025



LEHSD TRANSPORTATION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

2021-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL #2:

The LEHSD will strive to provide a safe, efficient, and fiscally responsible transportation service to all students.

INITIAL GOALS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Innovation - continuously improving our service through creative solutions.
- Eliminate the need for outside transportation for homeless /Out of District (OOD) students.
- Improve the current system of transportation pickup and dropoff, including increasing instructional time and less parent pickup and dropoff.

ULTIMATE GOAL

- Separate fleets for seamless transportation control/ operation for LEHSD.



ORGANIZATIONAL CONCERNS

- INCREASINGLY COST UTILIZING CONTRACTOR
- VERY LITTLE ORGANIZATIONAL /LOGISTICAL CONTROL (I.E TIMING, SCHOOL CALENDAR, SCHOOL SCHEDULE)
- HIGH COSTS WITH NO ASSETS TO SHOW FOR IT
- DECREASED INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
- PARENT PICK-UP / DROP-OFF PROCEDURES
- EXCESSIVE RIDE TIMES
- INCREASED COSTS DUE TO TIME SHEETS



NON NEGOTIABLES

- **MUST** have minibuses on site and ready to go ASAP
 - Routes cannot be cancelled until minibuses are on-site and drivers are ready
 - Provision of the appropriate number of drivers and substitute drivers available
 - Reasonable and appropriate organizational / office staff to ensure timely response to health and safety concerns



CONSIDERATIONS

OPERATIONAL

- Purchase of minivans timeframe (homeless routes, OOD placements)
- Lease purchase of minibuses time frame
- Fleet Management - maintenance, scheduling, upgrades to ensure optimal fleet performance
- Implementation Plan including transitional time
- Increase in district employed drivers and aides
- Increases in bus/van maintenance costs
- Secure parking for buses/vans
 - Tree Line at Frog Pond Elementary
 - Solar Covered Parking Structure?
- Purchase of car seats/harnesses
- Purchase, installation, maintenance of video cameras
- Increase in mandatory random drug testing (RDT) cost



MINIBUS MAINTENANCE/ REGISTRATION

ITEM	COST PER BUS	# OF BUSES	TOTAL
REGISTRATION	\$50	8	\$400
INSURANCE	\$1,500	8	\$12,000
INSPECTIONS (QUARTERLY)	\$150	8	\$1,200
GAS	~ 400 MILES/MONTH AT \$3.15/GAL	6*	\$5,040
TIRE REPLACEMENT	\$180/TIRE (2)	8	\$2,880
OIL CHANGES	\$80/4	8	\$2,560

**Only 6 buses out of the 8 will be operating at a given time. Two buses will be spares.*

MINIVAN MAINTENANCE/ REGISTRATION

ITEM	COST PER BUS	# OF VANS	TOTAL
REGISTRATION	\$50	2	\$100
INSURANCE	\$1,500	2	\$3,000
INSPECTIONS	\$0	2	\$0
GAS	~ 400 MILES/MONTH AT \$3.15/GAL	2	\$4,560
TIRE REPLACEMENT	\$180/TIRE (4)	2	\$1,440
OIL CHANGES	\$80/2	2	\$320

CONSIDERATIONS EMPLOYMENT

- Increase in district employed Drivers and Aides (unaffiliated)
 - Seeking six (6) dedicated Drivers and four (4) to six (6) backups
- Increase in bus Paraprofessionals
- Type of payroll options - just dedicated Drivers or “bustodians” as backups
 - Make CDL an option for specific newly hired employees? Cross training
 - Incentive for hiring a prospective employee with a CDL
 - Offer a higher starting pay
 - No CDL - We will train the prospective employee and begin their employment at a lower starting salary
- Increase in mandatory RDT cost



SALARY CONSIDERATIONS

VENDOR	SALARY
DURHAM	\$24.50/HR
FIRST STUDENT	\$28.25-29.25/HR
HOLCOMB	\$27/HR
INTEGRITY	\$25/HR
LACEY	\$55,000/YEAR
LITTLE EGG HARBOR	\$30/HR \$31,860/YR
PINELANDS	\$25/HR ATHLETICS ONLY
SHEPPARD	\$25/HR
SOUTHERN	\$22,854-\$36,159/YR

COST OF DRIVERS (\$30/HR - 29.5 HOURS/WEEK)

SCHOOL YEAR	SALARY
2026-2027	\$31,860

**SEEKING SIX (6) DEDICATED DRIVERS
AND FOUR (4) TO SIX (6) BACKUPS**

MISCELLANEOUS COSTS			
ITEM	COST	# OF EMPLOYEES	TOTAL
CDL TRAINING	\$2,000	UP TO FIVE (5) EMPLOYEES	\$4,000
DRUG TESTING	\$130/PERSON	PRE-EMPLOYMENT \$ RDT	\$1,300



STATUS QUO TRANSPORTATION



DOES NOT ADDRESS SEPARATE FLEETS

This option does not address the idea of separating the fleets based upon ages , grades or schools.



DOES NOT ADDRESS RISING TRANSPORTATION COSTS



DOES NOT INCREASE DISTRICT ASSETS

STATUS QUO

GENERAL EDUCATION PK-6

PROS	CONS
FAMILIAR - LESS CHANGE	CONTINUED HETEROGENEOUS BUS ROUTES
	LONG RIDE TIMES
	HIGHER TRANSPORTATION COSTS WITH OUTSIDE CONTRACTING
	SHARED BUSING
	LITTLE TO NO LOGISTICAL CONTROL
	NO DISTRICT ASSESTS





FINANCE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION:

**INCREASE MINIBUS FLEET BY FIVE,
INCREASE BIG BUS CONTRACT BY
FIVE LARGE BUSES AND INCREASE
OUR MINIVANS BY TWO**



SEPARATE FLEETS

Addresses separating fleets by grades or schools.



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL CALENDAR DEVELOPMENT



DECREASED RIDE TIMES AND BEHAVIORAL ISSUES

INCREASE FLEET ACROSS THE BOARD

AFFILIATED COSTS WITH FIVE MINIBUSES, FIVE LARGE BUSES AND 2 MINIVANS

	COST	SAVINGS
 NEW MINIBUS LEASE	\$125,000/YEAR	
 NEW LARGE BUS CONTRACT	\$150,000/YEAR	
 NEW MINIVAN LEASE	\$14,400/YEAR	
 NEW DRIVER	\$185,850/YEAR	
 AVERAGE COST PER ROUTE		\$585,775 (11 ROUTES)
 REVENUE FROM OTHER DISTRICTS		\$120,000
 TOTAL SAVINGS		\$230,575

CONS OF INCREASING FLEET ACROSS THE BOARD

- INCREASED VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT
- INCREASED DOT INSPECTIONS
- RISK OF AN INCREASE IN THE CHANCE OF HAVING TO REBID ROUTES RESULTING IN INCREASED COSTS
- INCREASED PAYROLL RESPONSIBILITY
- INCREASED FUEL COSTS
- PARKING/SECURITY OF BUSES
- BUS REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE

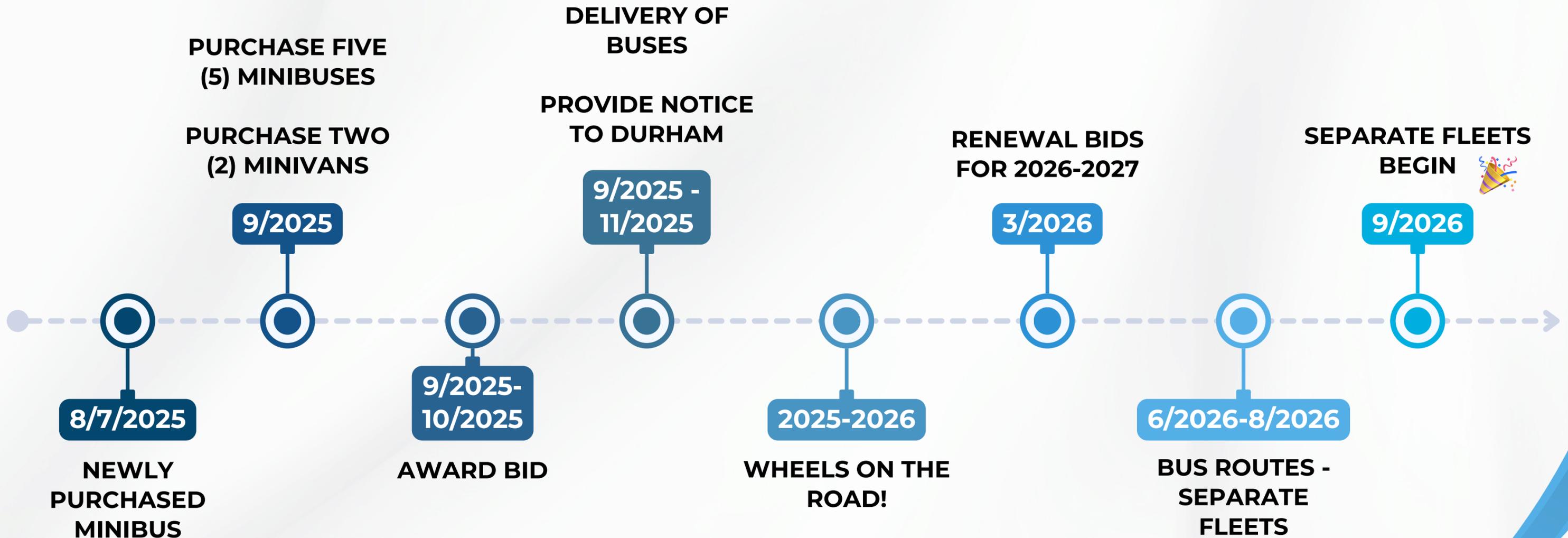


PROS FOR EXPANDING OUR FLEET ACROSS THE BOARD

- **SEPARATE FLEETS**
- **DECREASED RIDE TIMES** (DECREASED BEHAVIORAL ISSUES/PARENT DROP OFF & PICK UP)
- SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LOGISTICAL CONTROL
- **MORE AGE/GRADE-APPROPRIATE ROUTING**
- LOWER OVERALL TRANSPORTATION COSTS
- **INCREASED DISTRICT ASSETS**
- MORE CONTROLLED COSTS- DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE CPI INCREASING
- **FIELD TRIPS** - LOWER COST FOR FIELD TRIPS
- LONG TERM SAVINGS FIXED COST VS VARIABLE COSTS FOR EACH ROUTE
- **ECC ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES - NO DELAYS**
- OVERALL ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL - LESS ISSUES WITH TIMING, LOGISTICS, DISCIPLINARY ISSUES
- **RIDE SHARING - SHARED SERVICES (PINELANDS / TUCKERTON / EAGLESWOOD)**
- DECREASE IN AID IN LIEU PAYMENTS
- **INDEPENDENT SCHOOL CALENDAR DEVELOPMENT**
- IMPROVED TRAFFIC FLOW IN AND AROUND SCHOOLS
- CONTROL OVER HIRING
- ESY ROUTING (90% IN-HOUSE)
- BACK UP BUS WILL NO LONGER BE NEEDED (\$29,000 SAVING FOR 10 MONTHS - \$2900/MONTH)
- PROVIDE SERVICES AFTER SCHOOL FOR OUR AT-RISK STUDENTS
- **ELIMINATE USE OF MOESC **HUGE COST SAVINGS****
- OPERATIONAL LOGISTICAL CONTROL (WALK AWAY DRILLS, IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY/TRAGEDY)
- **OOD / HOMELESS ROUTES DONE IN HOUSE**
- FLEXIBILITY IN PROVIDING PROGRAMMING FOR OUR AT-RISK POPULATION AFTER SCHOOL
- POSSIBLE OPTION TO "BUY" A HEALTH PLAN (NO COST TO THE DISTRICT)
- REVENUE FROM OTHER DISTRICTS



PROPOSED TIMELINE





**LITTLE EGG HARBOR
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THANK YOU

