

Valley View Local School District
Transportation RFP Questions Received with Answers
Questions Received by 1/13/2026

Question	Answer
How many school days a year should we assume for school each year? This is critical to establish operational cost.	For the 2026–2027 school year, the District calendar reflects 175 student attendance days. While this number is not anticipated to change over the course of the proposed contract, future school calendars are subject to approval and may change. Vendors should structure their proposals with this understanding.
Where and when is the Pre-bid meeting? Is the meeting mandatory?	1/13/2026, virtual via Google Meet. It is Optional
Can we confirm route counts by type (0 van/ 18 reg ed bus/ 2 sped bus with lift)?	Based on current information, the District confirms the following approximate route counts: 0 vans, 18 regular education buses, and 2 special education buses with lifts. These counts are based on current enrollment and routing needs and may change in the future. Vendors should account for potential adjustments in their proposals.
Currently you have 2 routes and 1 spare bus that requires a wheelchair lift. Do you want the same moving forward	Yes however these counts are based on current enrollment and routing needs and may change in the future. Vendors should account for potential adjustments in their proposals
Does any of the buses require Air Conditioning? Typically this may be required on SPED	Yes however this is based on current enrollment and needs and may change in the future. Vendors should account for potential adjustments in their proposals
Our CBA with the union requires a 5-hour minimum for all drivers and monitors	The selected vendor will be responsible for managing any union contract provisions with their employees. Any requirements that may impact the service or contract should be included in the response.
How long is your average route?	The District's preference is for students to spend no more than 60 minutes on the bus for any route. Vendors should plan and propose routes in accordance with this guideline while meeting all other service requirements outlined in the RFP.
Can excess hours be billed for any routes that go over 5 hours a day?	Not at this time.
Are dry runs required, and can they be billed? Typically, we do 1 day before school starts so drivers can practice the new routes before students are picked up.	Please refer to the third paragraph under "General Conditions-Introduction."
How many mid-day routes will there be next year? Currently you have 1 that runs about 1.5 hours a day.	The district would like to keep the current practice.

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Snow days are currently paid at 50%. Can we assume this to be the same in the new contract?	Please refer to the third paragraph under "General Conditions-Introduction."
How many school bus monitors are required per day? Currently you are using 5 per day.	Respondants should submit proposals with the understanding that the number of monitors required may change over time depending on enrollment and specific student needs.
Currently Districts pays Drivers and Monitors a monthly payment of \$277 in lieu of offering Health Insurance. Will this continue in the new contract. Removing this could result in driver turnover	Compensation and benefit offerings for drivers and monitors, including any payments made in lieu of health insurance, are matters between the contractor and its employees. Vendors are responsible for structuring their own compensation and benefits in a manner that supports recruitment and retention of their workforce while meeting the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
Currently, all your fleet uses diesel, and you pay for the fuel. If someone brings in propane buses would the district still pay for the fuel source which would now be propane and require new tanks onsite or 3rd party delivery which can be expensive ?	The District does not currently have plans to change its fuel source or fleet fuel type. Any proposal to utilize an alternative fuel, including propane, and any associated infrastructure, delivery arrangements, or costs would be subject to mutual agreement by both parties at a future date. Any proposal requiring a change in fuel source should include specifications, expected district/contractor obligations and cost information in the proposal. The District is not committing at this time to fund or support alternative fuel options or related infrastructure beyond the current diesel operations.
Do you require a 10% spare ratio on drivers and monitors? This is the current practice	The district would like to keep the current practice.

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You are asking for a 15-year max on any 1 bus. Typically, we see 12-year max in most Ohio contracts because maintenance cost can be higher than a new payment on a new bus. One main reason for this can be the rust/rot issues where the buses body rots out after 12 years due to winter weather and rust caused by salt on the road. This can lead to expensive repairs before the bus passes inspection by the SHP. Will the district consider a 12 year max with a 8 year average?	The District is requesting proposals to be submitted in accordance with the requirements outlined in the RFP documents, including the stated maximum vehicle age. Respondents are expected to base their proposals on those specifications. The District will accept proposals with a younger maximum, since it is within the requirements of the RFP, but will not accept proposals with a max age older than 15 years. The District is not modifying the RFP requirements at this time, but Respondants are encouraged to submit any necessary information, outlining how costs are impacted, if the proposed fleet age younger than the 15-year maximum.
First Student has a parent app where they can track their students' bus. Is this something you are interested in seeing as part of the contract?	The District is interested in reviewing vendor proposals, including value-added services, provided that all requirements outlined in the RFP documents are fully met. Any technology solutions, such as parent tracking applications, may be included as part of a vendor's proposal for the District's consideration but are not required unless specifically stated in the RFP.
Can you provide list of current routes? Can you provide hours of the routes with pre-trip and post-trip?	Please see Sheet 2 of this file
Can you provide driver hourly wages?	The District does not maintain information regarding drivers' hourly rates. Drivers are employees of the current transportation vendor, and compensation details are determined and managed solely by the contractor.
Do any routes require aides/monitors? If so, how many?	Please refer to the Pricing section of the RFP document (page 11). Aides and monitors are subject to change throughout the contract based on the District's special education needs.
Does the district have a routing system?	The District does not maintain or provide routing software. The current transportation vendor utilizes its own routing software as part of its operations. Vendors responding to the RFP should assume responsibility for providing and managing their own routing systems in accordance with the requirements outlined in the RFP.

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Will the contractor handle routing or District? If so, what is the name of the software?	Please refer to the General Conditions – Full-Service School Transportation section of the RFP for the applicable requirements and expectations.
What technology are you wanting on the fleet?	Please refer to the Operational Requirements section of the RFP for the applicable requirements and expectations.
How many spare ratio for fleet? Does the district need field trip/Athletic trip buses only?	Please refer to the Operational Requirements section of the RFP for the applicable requirements and expectations.
How many trips are conflicted during route time?	The routes are not conflicted
Can you provide last 12 months of current contractor invoices? Home to School and Field Trips & Athletic	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process.
Are the current drivers union? if so, can you provide the union contract?	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process. Labor agreements are matters solely between the vendor and its employees, and that the district does not require a copy of the contract.
Can you provide the current contract with current contractor?	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process.
What is the anticipated board award date? (Acquiring buses will be more difficult the later the award date is.)	Please see Project Timetable in RFP
Why is the district seeking bids at this time?	The District is seeking bids at this time due to the expiration of the current transportation contract. Transportation services represent a significant budgetary expenditure for the District, and issuing a competitive bid allows the District to evaluate available options and ensure it is receiving the best overall value and service for its taxpayers.
Is the incumbent staffed?	The District does not manage or monitor the incumbent contractor's staffing levels. Staffing adequacy is the responsibility of the contractor, provided that all service requirements in the RFP are met.

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What is the incumbent quantity of full time office staff and mechanics along with position titles?	The District does not maintain information regarding the incumbent contractor's staffing levels. Staffing decisions and personnel assignments are the responsibility of the contractor. Vendors should propose staffing models they deem appropriate to meet the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
How has the performance been of the incumbent contractor?	The District has not experienced performance issues with the incumbent contractor, and service has been satisfactory.
Please provide a copy of the current contract and all related addenda.	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process.
Please provide copies of home to school invoices for the current school year, as well as trip invoices with time and mileage, all details related to any shuttles, extracurricular invoices - along with the back-up detail	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process.
Please confirm the number of attendance days for next school year in which busing will be required	For the 2026–2027 school year, the District calendar reflects 175 student attendance days. While this number is not anticipated to change over the course of the proposed contract, future school calendars are subject to approval and may change. Vendors should structure their proposals with this understanding.
Are there any routes that have different days of attendance than the regular district calendar? If yes, what routes vary and what is the variance?	Certain routes may operate on schedules that differ slightly from the regular District calendar. For example, Career Technical Center (MVCTC) routes vary slightly from the Valley View calendar and can change from year to year. Mid-day routes currently operate Monday through Thursday only. Vendors should account for such variations when preparing their proposals.
Are the incumbent drivers a part of a CBA and if so, can that agreement be shared with us? Can you confirm when the CBA expires?	This request constitutes a request for records. Requests for invoices or other contractual records will be handled in accordance with the District's public records request process.

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Can you confirm the current starting driver wage and starting monitor wage? To your knowledge, is there a minimum hourly guarantee for drivers and monitors and if so, what is it?	Drivers and monitors are employees of the contractor. Compensation and employment terms are determined and maintained by the vendor. Vendor proposals should be made based on their own wages, staffing terms and any guarantees in the Vendor's compensation and employment models, so long as those terms comply with the requirements of the RFP and all applicable laws.
Can you provide a current fleet list showing the type of vehicle, age of vehicle, capacity of vehicle and any special accommodations such as wheelchair capacities? Can the district provide the number of regular education buses vs wheelchair lift equipped buses currently utilized by the incumbent contractor?	The District does not maintain a detailed fleet inventory for the current contractor or track the exact number of regular education buses versus wheelchair lift-equipped buses currently used and maintained by the contractor. However, the District confirms the following approximate route counts: 0 vans, 18 regular education buses, and 2 special education buses with lifts. Vendors should propose fleet configurations that meet the service requirements outlined in the RFP and bid accordingly.
Based on current operational coverage, is the current fleet adequate or do you have a desire to see something different with the fleet?	Based on current operations, current fleet coverage is adequate. However, the District is open to reviewing creative or alternative fleet approaches proposed by vendors, provided all RFP requirements are met and service quality is maintained or enhanced.
Are there any special equipment requirements? Such as safety harnesses, car seats, buckle guards, etc?	The District requires that all vehicles and operations comply with Ohio law and applicable safety regulations. Contractors must provide and utilize any specialized safety equipment necessary to meet the individual safety needs of students being transported. Special equipment requirements may change over time depending on enrollment and specific student needs. Vendors should account for potential changes in their proposals and clearly outline the safety equipment they will provide to meet these requirements.
Please provide current route sheets showing mileage, times, and student pickups/drop offs for all routes	Please see Sheet 3 of this file
Please provide a list showing routes that are tiered and untiered	Please see Sheet 3 of this file

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Please provide summer school / ESY invoices including number of routes, number of days, hours and miles	The District does not provide transportation for Summer School programing. Requirements may change over time depending on enrollment and specific student needs. Vendors should account for potential changes in their proposals and clearly outline the safety equipment they will provide to meet these requirements.
Can the district provide counts on regular education and special needs education students utilizing transportation services for the 2025/26 school year?	For the 2025–2026 school year, the District has 985 regular education students and 34 special education students utilizing transportation services. These counts are based on current enrollment and may change from year to year. Vendors should account for potential fluctuations in student populations when preparing their proposals.
Will the district consider contract language suggestions/recommendations by bidders?	A successful bidder will have the opportunity to share suggested contract language during the contract negotiation process. See the Project timetable for approximate dates. Any proposed changes will be required to fully conform with the RFP and all applicable laws.
For the using the district transportation facility, I see that contractors are responsible for routing maintenance and repairs, can you clarify the annual cost for such items? Does the contractor need to provide any furniture, bus lifts, or other maintenance equipment?	The District does not maintain records of annual maintenance or repair costs for the transportation facility. Furniture is built into the facility and is generally provided, although contractors may choose to provide additional items as needed. The District does not have a bus lift on-site. Contractors are responsible for providing and maintaining any equipment required to operate their fleet in compliance with the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
Can you confirm how the district currently handles the SERS component for contractor employees and if this is the same method that will be used for the new contract?	The District establishes a contractor account with the School Employees Retirement System (SERS) that allows the contractor to access the SERS system. The contractor is responsible for reporting all applicable wages to SERS and for submitting all required contributions, including any late fees and/or annual surcharges. This process is anticipated to remain the same under the new contract.

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How many “peak” trips occur during route times on a weekly average basis?	The District’s daily routes are generally consistent, with very little variation from day to day. The District does not track or define “peak” trips separately. Vendors should base their proposals on the standard daily routing requirements outlined in the RFP.
What is the current routing software used?	The District does not have knowledge of the routing software currently used by the incumbent contractor. Selection, implementation, and management of routing software is the responsibility of the contractor. Vendors should propose software solutions that meet the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
What is the current GPS software used?	The District does not have knowledge of the GPS software currently used by the incumbent contractor. Selection, implementation, and management of GPS or tracking systems is the responsibility of the contractor. Vendors should propose solutions that meet the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
Is there currently a bus app offered for parents, if so what is it?	The District does not have knowledge of any bus app software currently used by the incumbent contractor. Selection and management of any parent communication or tracking applications is the responsibility of the contractor. Vendors may include such solutions in their proposals for the District’s consideration.
Please confirm the number of monitors required on routes at present.	The District does not maintain a fixed count of monitors required on routes. There are 5 monitors as of the date of this document. The number of monitors needed can change throughout the year based on student enrollment and the individual needs of students being transported. Vendors should propose staffing models that ensure all service requirements outlined in the RFP are met at all times.
Please confirm the number of cameras required on buses and vans	Please see Equipment Requirements in the RFP.

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How many full-time employees for First Student service your district?	The District does not maintain information regarding the incumbent contractor's staffing levels. Staffing decisions and personnel assignments are the responsibility of the contractor. Vendors should propose staffing models they deem appropriate to meet the service requirements outlined in the RFP.
Can you provide years of service of the current drivers?	The District does not employ drivers and does not maintain records regarding the length of service or experience levels of the incumbent contractor's drivers. Vendors should propose staffing models that meet all service requirements outlined in the RFP.
IF a new contractor is awarded the contract, when would the student data be available for routing purposes? To set up the data and create the routing.	Please see the Routing and Efficiency section of the RFP. The District will work with the awarded contractor to provide student data in a timely manner using existing data systems; however, vendors should plan for ongoing updates as part of their routing processes.
Can you confirm the mileage for each route on Sheet 2?	Please see Sheet 3 of this file
Can you confirm 1 Mid-day Route	Please see Sheet 3 of this file
Are all routes single or double tiered routes?	Please see Sheet 3 of this file
The times on the routes provides on Sheet 2 - Can you clarify what those times include?	Please see Sheet 3 of this file

Sped 2 runs SPED in AM and PM plus the MID route. it is 6hrs 16 minutes with a 6.5hr guarantee

	Name			TOTAL HOURS:MIN	route plus mid gaurantee	gaurantee
	A			5:06		5
	B			4:44		5
	C			4:48		5
	CTC			3:15		5
	CTC			3:15		5
	D			4:52		5
	E			5:01		5
	F			5:06		5
	G			4:50		5
	H			5:00		5
	I			4:57		5
	J			5:09		5
	K			5:03		5
	L			5:04		5
	M			4:59		5
	N			4:56		5
	O			4:55		5
	P			5:05		5
	SPED 1			5:02		5
	SPED 2+MID		6:16		6.5	6.5

	Double tier	All home to school are double with the exception of the 2 career tech buses and the Mid-day
	Mid-day route count	1
	Route times	Includes pre-trip and post trip typical times (typical clock in and clock out)
	Miles per day each route	
SPED	Route SP1	64.8
SPED	Route SP2	70.9 this is mid+SPED
REG	Route A	72.88
REG	Route B	85.72
REG	Route C	87.06
REG	Route D	70.04
REG	Route E	66.38
REG	Route F	57.64
REG	Route G	67.16
REG	Route H	70.04
REG	Route i	71.6
REG	Route J	93.74
REG	Route K	72.88
REG	Route L	74.5
REG	Route M	67.26
REG	Route N	77.76
REG	Route O	82.56
REG	Route P	81.16
	Mid day 1	SEE SP2
	Route CTC1	73.6
	Route CTC2	73.6
		1410.38 DAILY