

GROVEPORT MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT
4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125
www.gocruisers.org

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

PLEASE DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES TO: James Grube
Deputy Superintendent
Groveport Madison Schools
4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125
614-492-2520
jamie.grube@gocruisers.org

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(Multiple Award Contract)

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ADVERTISEMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Sealed proposals will be received by the Groveport Madison School District, (4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B Groveport, OH 43125), until 5:00 PM, Eastern Standard Time, March 23, 2022, to furnish student transportation services as described in the specifications included with this RFP. Proposers shall submit 1 hard copy and 1 electric copy via flash drive of its proposal and other required documents.

Proposals received after the time of opening will not be considered. No proposer may withdraw its proposal after the hour set for the opening, or before award of purchase order, unless said award is delayed beyond April 8, 2022*.

Bids will be opened publicly on March 23, 2022 and the names of the Proposers will be read at that time. Requests for information regarding the details of the received proposals may be made in accordance with this RFP.

Any company or individual interested in submitting a proposal for pupil transportation services is required to register with the District by submitting a "Letter of Interest" on Proposer's official letterhead indicating the Proposer's name, mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, stating Proposer's intent to provide District with a proposal for pupil transportation services. Bidders may attend an optional pre-proposal conference scheduled for March 7, 2022 at 10:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time at the following location:

4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125

The Groveport Madison School District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

PROPOSAL SELECTION TIMELINE

Advertisement for Proposals	February 25, 2022
Pre-Proposal Conference	March 7, 2022
Letter of Interest Due to District	March 16, 2022
Submission Deadline & Proposal Opening	March 23, 2022
Selection Committee Meets	March 25 – March 31, 2022
Recommendation to School Board/ Award	April 8, 2022*
*(April 8, 2022 will be a Special Meeting)	
Contractor to Begin Service	July 1, 2022

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Groveport Madison School District is posting a request for proposals (RFP) for School Bus Transportation Services. It is the District's intention to determine the most responsible Proposer through evaluation of various criteria including, but not limited to: price (overall cost of services to be rendered), quality of management and operations, communication strategy, company stability, service reputation, length of time in business, preventive maintenance program, safety program, redundancy, training program and technology and equipment (buses) that will handle the number of students to be transported daily. The proposals will be evaluated from the standpoint of capability to serve District needs in an efficient and safe manner and to provide leadership in evaluating current routing, bus stops, etc.

Petermann Transportation, LLC is currently providing student transportation for the Groveport Madison School District, with corporate offices located at 8041 Hosbrook Road, Suite 330 Cincinnati, Ohio 45236 (513-351-7383). Peterman Transportation's Groveport office is located at the District Service Center (4400 Marketing Place, Suite C, Groveport, OH, 43125 (614) 836-4962), and they currently provides all student transportation, including after school activities.

The District is seeking a fully "turn-key" service contract to provide daily school transportation for over 4000 students. The successful Proposer will provide necessary leadership, coordination and cooperation to assure that services are responsive to the needs of the District and are consistent with District policy, state requirements and all other applicable laws and regulations.

The District includes all building levels and dedicated routes for special education, homeless & domestic violence shelter students, and charter/non-public students. The services and equipment required and offered in a responsive proposal shall meet the needs as described within this RFP and relating to the number of students transported daily. Proposers may include any special or unique services they plan to provide. No alternate routing proposals will be accepted. Any alternate routing or elimination of routes will be dealt with only after the successful Proposer has been selected.

The District is more complex than other districts because the vast majority of their elementary, high school and middle school students rely on district provided transportation to get to school. The new high school building is off South Hamilton Road and other new buildings are off major thoroughfares such as Refugee Road and Winchester Pike. As a consequence, timely parent communications are critical. The successful proposer must assume responsibility for providing and enabling effective parent and district communications over all bus times: arrivals, pickups, and delays.

Given the inevitable route changes due to driver absenteeism, and weather; the provider's inability to communicate in real time with district transportation liaisons, principals and parents, is one of the major contract requirements. Proactive routing (not ad-hoc, day of), and detailed

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contingency planning (paired routes - like letter carriers) when one driver is absent there is prearranged coverage will be required for a responsive Proposal.

Proposals will be evaluated by the District's Transportation Selection Committee, which consists of representation from the District's Administration and School Board. The Transportation Selection Committee will review all documents submitted as a part of each proposal. The District reserves the right to make unannounced visitations to other sites where the Proposer is currently providing services, or at the Proposer's corporate offices. The District may request interviews with proposed site management personnel of companies submitting proposals.

The contract for student transportation services will be awarded to the Proposer whose proposal best meets the District's needs. It is the District's intention to determine the best, responsive, and responsible Proposer pursuant to the following criteria outline in this RFP, and that provides the best value to the District.

District officials may hold discussions with representatives of Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. Any clarification of a proposal by Proposer shall be in writing. The District will keep a detailed record of all discussions.

It is understood that the District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or waive any informality in a proposal; and, it is expressly contemplated that no contract exists on the part of the District until formal written notice has been given or until a contract is executed. It is understood that the District reserves the right to award a contract for the proposal in the manner deemed to be in the best interest of the District.

Should a Proposer find discrepancies or ambiguities in, or omissions from, the specifications, the Proposer must notify the Contract Office who will then send a written correction to all Proposers. The District will not be responsible for any oral instructions. All written corrections sent to Proposers are to be considered in the proposal and do become part of the Request for Proposal Documents. All requests for additional information, from any Proposer, must be received by the District in writing. Likewise, all additional information or answers to questions provided by the District to any Proposer shall be given in writing and supplied to all registered Proposers. The submission of a proposal will be construed to mean that the Proposer understands the requirements and that he/she can supply the services as specified.

About the District – Groveport Madison School District is a complex system of education opportunities and is more complex than typical school district in Ohio because vast majority of its elementary, high school and middle school students rely on district provided transportation to get to school. The new high school building is off South Hamilton Road and other new buildings are off major thoroughfares such as Refugee Road and Winchester Pike in Columbus, Ohio.

The Groveport Madison School District is centered in Groveport, Ohio, but also includes parts of Columbus, Ohio, serving a static population of approximately 4,000 students in grades K-12. The

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District serves students in (6) K-5 elementary schools, (2) middle schools, (1) junior high, and (1) high school.

The District is geographically located in south eastern Franklin County about 10 miles west of central Columbus, Ohio. While the majority of the District experiences fairly mild weather throughout the year, snow and ice are a certainty during the winter season which will impact bus routes. The Contractor must be prepared to operate school bus routes during times of adverse weather, unless student safety, road closures or other safety related issues prevail. In such cases the Contractor is responsible for alerting the District of such conditions in a timely manner so as to permit the implementation of school closure or late school start-up plans.

MULTIPLE AWARD CONTRACT

The District may, at its sole discretion, award Contracts to more than one responsive and responsible proposer for the transportation services requested under this RFP. Proposers may supply a response for the entire Scope of Work under this RFP or a sub-part of the Scope. However, the District shall award any or all of this work under this RFP based on the best-value proposal that is responsive and responsible and may choose to award the Contract in whole or in parts to one or more proposers.

II. PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

In order for the District to be certain that all potential Proposers understand the Request for Proposal document and the proposal process, a Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on March 7, 2022 at 10:00 AM, at the School District Office (address shown above). Attendance at the Pre-Proposal Conference is NOT mandatory. However, all companies or individuals having an interest in submitting a proposal for pupil transportation services are encouraged to be in attendance. Statements made by the District's representatives at the conference are not binding upon the District unless confirmed by a written addendum.

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III. GENERAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. FORMAT OF BID

Each bidder is invited to submit a proposal for services based upon the items described within this RFP. All bids shall be sealed and addressed as follows:

Attn: James Grube
Deputy Superintendent
Groveport Madison Schools
4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125
614-492-2520
jamie.grube@gocruisers.org

In addition, the name and address of the Proposer and the title of the proposal IDENTICAL in wording to that appearing on the cover of these specifications MUST appear on the outside of said envelope. (i.e., **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**). The District Office must receive all proposals no later than April 14, 2022, 3:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time.

The District is NOT responsible for proposals delivered to any location other than the District Office either by the Proposer, postal department or any other.

The proposal shall include all documents and information specified within this RFP. Required documents starting on page 43, where applicable, shall be signed as follows:

- (1) In the case of an individual bidder, by such individual bidder;
- (2) In the case of a partnership, the name of the partnership must appear on such proposal and it shall be signed in the name of such partnership by at least one partner. In addition to such signature, the names of all partners shall be stated in such proposal;
- (3) In the case of a corporation, the president or other managing officer shall subscribe the corporate name, and there shall be set forth under the signature of such officer the name of the office the officer holds or the capacity on which the officer acts for such corporation.

Facsimile (FAX) transmissions of proposals will not be accepted.

2. PROHIBITION OF ALTERATIONS

Proposals which are incomplete or conditioned, or which contain any erasures, alterations, addition of items not called for in the Project Specifications, or that contain irregularities of any kind, or which are not in conformity with the law may be rejected, as

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well as proposals that take exception to specifications or those that place conditions on the procurement, unless specifically indicated as acceptable.

3. COMPLAINTS AND REMEDIES

The District's designated Contract Officer for this process is James Grube, Deputy Superintendent. The Contract Officer will handle all objections, complaints, and inquiries regarding this RFP, and the selection of a Contractor. The Contract Officer may be contacted at the following address:

James Grube
Deputy Superintendent
Groveport Madison Schools
4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125
614-492-2520
jamie.grube@gocruisers.org

Any protest of these proposal specifications must be presented to the Contract Officer in writing not less than 10-days prior to the proposal opening, and the envelope containing a protest shall be marked as follows:

4. "PROPOSAL SPECIFICATIONS PROTEST, STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT"

In response to such protest, an addendum may be issued, if deemed appropriate by the Contract Officer, or designee.

Any Proposer who submits a Proposal to the District and who is adversely affected by the District's award to another Proposer may protest the contract award to another Proposer by filing a written protest to the above referenced Contracting Officer within five days of issuance of the award of the Contract. The protest must specify the grounds on which a protest is based. A Proposer is only adversely affected if it is next in line for the award as the best-value, responsive and responsible proposal. Protests will be reviewed based upon written documents submitted by the protester, and the District's response will be in writing. The District reserves the right to award a contract while a protest is pending.

The Groveport Madison School District Board of Education is the public contract review board for the Groveport Madison School District with the powers to act in the capacity as defined in Ohio Statutes and Administrative Rules.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS

Each Proposer, by the submission of a proposal, assents to each and every term and condition set forth anywhere in these specifications and agrees to be bound thereby.

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6. DISCLOSURE

Proposals will not be made a part of the public record until after the evaluation process is completed and the Contract is awarded. Said records including the evaluation report will then be available for public review. Should the Contractor deem part of its proposal a trade secret, said part must be clearly marked within the proposal. Moreover, should a public records request be made of the Contractor's proposal, the District will rely on Contractor's counsel to object to and defend any items it defines as trade secret from disclosure at no cost to the District.

7. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

No employee or elected official of the District may own more than 5% of a business that is submitting a proposal on any awards with the District unless it is fully disclosed in the proposal documents.

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IV. EVALUATION

The proposals shall be subjectively evaluated by a committee with points assigned based upon desirable features. Those proposals submitted that do not meet mandatory requirements will not be rated.

The role of the Evaluation Committee shall include a complete review of all documents submitted and may include on-site visitations to locations served as well as conferring contracting references or communicating with selected clients of the Contractor at the District’s discretion. It may also involve meeting with those Contractors selected to review their proposals. The District School Board will make the final decision on hiring a contractor.

All proposals from qualified transportation companies that provide the Mandatory Requirements will then be evaluated on the following criteria:

EVALUATION POINTS

EVALUATION CRITERIA	ALLOCATED POINTS
Mandatory Requirement: All Documents Including Check-List	Pass/Fail
“Competitive” Cost/Fee Rates	60
Company stability, service reputation, and length of time in business.	10
Financial Strength of Proposer.	10
Quality of Service and performance record.	20
Management capacity, qualifications and experience of management and staff.	20
Driver selection programs and training including pupil management.	20
Public sector leadership: ability to retain qualified employees.	10
Ability to meet or exceed the performance goals and Requirements of District as set forth in this Request for Proposal.	20
Fleet plan: Replacement plan for equipment and quality of maintenance program.	20
Safety program, history and procedures.	25
Flexibility/Agility in addressing concerns of parents, community relations, and school staff.	20
Communication plan with parents all of the changes, route changes, notification and late buses and other information.	20
Technology, video camera, and GPS usage integration and capacity.	15
TOTAL POSSIBLE: 270 POINTS	

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In addition to the above basic criteria, the following factors will be reviewed and considered although they will not be scored:

- Professionalism
- Flexibility
- Ability to bring in buses and drivers with short notice to alleviate driver and bus shortages.

The District, through the Evaluation Committee, reserves the right to invite one or more providers to present their proposals, in person, to the committee or School Board.

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V. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – GENERAL

By submitting a proposal in response to this solicitation, Proposer agrees to the following terms and conditions of service to District:

1. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS:

AGREEMENT - Contract between District and successful Proposer.

CONTRACTOR - Successful Proposer

DISTRICT – Groveport Madison School District

PARTIES – The Successful Proposer and the District.

PROPOSER - An individual or company, experienced and qualified in the area of school bus operations that elects to provide District a proposal for providing pupil transportation services.

PROPOSAL - Detailed information provided by a Proposer outlining the manner in which Proposer intends to provide pupil transportation services to the District.

SCHOOL BUS or BUSES - Regulation School Bus that meets or exceeds the State of Ohio minimum standards.

2. TERM

District will award a contract for an initial two (2) year period. This initial term shall begin on July 1, 2022 and expire on June 30, 2024. The contract may be extended in years subsequent to the initial contract by mutual written agreement of the parties. The Contract will be extended automatically for one year after the initial term unless the District notifies the Contractor of termination by February 1, 2024. Subsequent contract terms may occur in increments of 1 to 5 years. Such extensions must be agreed upon by January 31 of the final contract year or the contract will expire at the ending date of the term then in effect.

3. DISTRICT POLICIES

A. The District shall have the exclusive right and obligation to set standards or policies for District operations. Policies include those regarding student transportation in general, and in particular as to the beginning and ending time of schools, walking distances to school, the establishment of bus stops, bus arrivals and departure times, railroad crossings, current route descriptions, student discipline and all other pertinent policies relating to transportation.

B. The District shall designate the students for whom Contractor shall provide regular home to school transportation services. Contractor shall provide regular service

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for such students for each day that school is in session during the term of this agreement and shall provide other special education or homeless, domestic violence shelter students, and charter/non-public student transportation services for such students and authorized District Personnel as the District may require.

4. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Contractor is an Independent Contractor responsible to furnish transportation and related services only, pursuant to this Agreement, and neither Contractor nor any agent, officer or employee of Contractor shall be held or deemed in any way to be an agent, employee, officer or official of the District. None of the benefits provided by the District to its employees is available to the employees, agents or servants of the Contractor. Contractor shall be solely responsible for Contractor's acts and for the acts of Contractor's agents, officers, and employees during the performance of the Agreement, and at all other times, and the District shall have no power or control pertinent to the acts of any said persons.

Notwithstanding the status of Independent Contractor, the Proposer agrees to make all State Employment Retirement System contributions for all personnel providing services under this contract.

5. INSURANCE

- A. The Contractor at its sole expense shall procure and furnish the District with a Certificate of Insurance naming District, including its Board of Directors, Officers, Agents and Employees, acting on behalf of District, as additional insured. The Certificate of Insurance shall be provided annually and maintained on file continuously, for the term of the Agreement, at the District Office. The insurance minimums satisfactory to the District shall be as set forth below. The insurance shall be kept current during the Agreement and the District requires a thirty days (30) written notification prior to any cancellation of the required insurance should a change in insurance carriers take place.
- B. The Contractor shall provide general liability and automobile liability insurance, naming the District as an additional insured, its agents and employees acting in their official capacities as such, the Contractor as a named insured, and drivers and other related personnel insuring against any claim for damages for personal injury or death and from damage to property which may arise from operations of the Contractor under the Agreement.

The following minimum limits apply to the General Liability insurance requirements:

\$1,000,000	Each Occurrence
\$2,000,000	General Aggregate

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\$ 10,000	Medical Payments per Person
\$5,000,000	Umbrella/Excess Liability

Or a total occurrence limit of no less than \$5,000,000 for all coverage combined.

The following minimum limits apply to the Commercial Auto insurance requirements:

\$1,000,000	For Each Person (Bodily Injury)
\$1,000,000	For Property Damage
\$1,000,000	For Underinsured (and Uninsured) Motorists
\$10,000	Medical Payments per Person
\$5,000,000	Umbrella/Excess Liability

Or a total occurrence limit of no less than \$5,000,000 for all coverage combined. Indicate in the proposal the amount that the Contractor will carry.

C. Workers' Compensation Insurance shall be maintained as required by law.

6. HOLD HARMLESS

In addition to the insurance requirements included as part of the Agreement, the Contractor shall also defend, indemnify and hold harmless the District and its agents and employees acting in their official capacities from and against any and all claims, suits, judgments and demands whatsoever, including without limitation, costs, litigation expenses, attorney fees and liabilities with respect to injury to, or death of, any person or persons whosoever, or damage to property of any kind whomsoever owned, arising out of or caused or claimed to have been caused in whole or in part by the acts or omissions of the Contractor, any subcontractor, their agents or any other person directly or indirectly employed by them or any of them, while engaged in the performance of the work, this Agreement or any activity associated therewith, or related thereto.

7. FORCE MAJEURE

A. In the event Contractor is unable to provide transportation because of Acts of God, fire, flood, riot, war, strikes, labor disputes, natural disasters, pandemics, or endemics, the District shall excuse Contractor from performance hereunder and shall have the right, but not be required, to take over the safe and legal operation of such buses that Contractor is prevented from running with school employees, or other persons as the District may deem appropriate until Contractor is able to resume operations, provided however, the insurance and hold harmless indemnification clauses herein shall not apply in such a situation. In this event, the District shall pay to the Contractor for buses used, the same amount specified in the rate schedule applicable for that year, less all reasonable expenses and costs

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incurred by the District in securing the services of such operating personnel. The Contractor shall not be released from contractual obligation because of the above-mentioned conditions until it is satisfactorily established that the nonperformance is not due to the fault or neglect of the Contractor.

If neither the District nor the Contractor operates the buses, the District is not obligated to any payments.

- B. Contractor agrees to make every reasonable effort to provide transportation in the event of a strike by the District's or Contractor's employees.
- C. **NOTE:** A lack of drivers shall not be considered a force majeure event. It is reasonable to anticipate that drivers will become unavailable due to a multitude of circumstances. Contractor must anticipate driver shortages and have redundancy, back-up, and contingency plans in place to address any shortage. Failure to provide drivers to service all routes at all times will be considered a material breach of this Agreement, and Contractor will be liable for all costs to remedy that breach by the District, including but not limited to Liquidated Damages as specified in this RFP.

8. ARBITRATION

Any disagreement regarding the interpretation, meaning or effect of any provision of the Agreement may be settled by arbitration if so agreed by both parties in writing. In case of such a written request, the parties agree that within (60) sixty-days, binding arbitration will be entered into, with each party having selected an arbitrator, and the two having selected a third. The decision of the majority of the arbitrators shall be binding upon each of the parties hereto. The cost of such arbitration shall be shared equally between the parties. The rules of the American Arbitration Association shall be used should such arbitration commence.

9. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT

Neither this Agreement nor any interest herein shall be assigned to any other party or parties without the prior written consent of the District. In the event of any attempt to transfer interest without District's permission, District may terminate this Agreement with a notice period of its own choosing.

10. FUNDING

The parties recognize that revenue needed to fund this Agreement must be approved by established budget procedures. The parties also recognize that the revenue received by the District is sometimes affected by circumstances outside the control of the District. This Agreement, therefore, is entered into contingent upon the ability of the District to fund this Agreement.

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11. SEVERABILITY

Should any provision of the Agreement between the District and Contractor, or the application thereof, be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the Agreement and the application thereof, other than those provision(s) as to which it shall have been held invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby and shall continue valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law or equity.

12. DISCLOSURE OF INDEPENDENCE AND RELATIONSHIP

Prior to the establishment of any Agreement, the potential Contractor shall certify in writing to the District that no relationship exists between the potential Contractor and the Contracting Officer or the District that interferes with fair competition or is a conflict of interest, and that no relationship exists between the potential Contractor and another person or organization that constitutes a conflict or interest with respect to an Agreement with the District. The District may waive this provision, in writing, if these relationships of the potential Contractor will not be adverse to the interests of the District.

13. TAXES

The District is tax-exempt and any tax liability that might be incurred by the Contractor for personal or real property is the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

14. TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF CONTRACTOR SERVICES

- A. The District may terminate this Agreement immediately in the event that the District's board or superintendent reasonably concludes that Contractor's performance under this Agreement has endangered the health, safety or welfare of the District's pupils so as to necessitate immediate termination. Termination under this provision shall be effective upon written notice by District to Contractor by either delivery of written notice of such termination to Contractor's local office or facility, or upon mailing a written notice by both regular mail and certified mail return receipt requested to the address provided by Contractor to District for the purposes of delivering notices under the Agreement.
- B. District may otherwise terminate this Agreement with Contractor, without cause, by giving 60 days written notice of termination to Contractor. Said notice to be delivered by either delivery of written notice of such termination to Contractor's local office or facility; or upon mailing a written notice by both regular mail and certified mail return receipt requested to the address provided by Contractor to District for the purposes of delivering notices under this Agreement.
- C. District may terminate this Agreement if District gives written notice to Contractor of its intent to terminate this Agreement if Contractor is in default under the Agreement for any of the reasons set forth below in this section and Contractor

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should fail within 30 days after receiving such notice from the District to remedy said default set forth in the notice from District. The following events shall be a default by Contractor and shall be subject to this 30 day notice requirement:

- Should Contractor be or become insolvent.
- Should Contractor make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors.
- Should Contractor file for protection under the bankruptcy laws of the United States.
- Should Contractor repeatedly refuse or fail to supply sufficient properly qualified drivers or buses to perform the transportation services requirements for the District as set forth in this Agreement.
- Should Contractor regularly fail to perform the transportation services required under this Agreement in compliance with the required time schedule.
- Should Contractor regularly fail to comply with District transportation policies.
- Should Contractor willfully disregard laws, ordinances, governmental rules or regulations or should it repeatedly disregard the instructions of the District, which are consistent with this Agreement.
- Should Contractor commit any other material breach of this Agreement.

- D. In the event of termination under any provision herein, District, at its sole discretion, may elect to purchase from Contractor all or selected transportation vehicles then in use in the District. The purchase of vehicles under this provision shall be at the then current fair market value. District must give written notice to Contractor of its intent to purchase vehicles at the time the termination notice is provided and must specifically identify vehicles to be purchased within 30 days of the notice of termination or intent to terminate.

15. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

- A. The Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action: The Contractor will comply with all Department and federal laws regarding equal employment opportunity, including O.R.C. Section 125.111 and all related Executive Orders. Contractor represents, by acceptance of this agreement that it will comply with such Executive Orders and rules and regulations, and amendments thereto, to the extent the same are applicable to the provision or subcontracting of services or work under this Agreement.
- B. Contractor agrees not to discriminate against any client, employee or applicant for employment or for services, because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, or sexual orientation with regard to, but not limited to, the following: Recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoffs or terminations; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; selection for training; or rendition of services. Contractor further understands and agrees that violation of this clause may be

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treated by District as a material breach of this agreement, unless Contractor makes a satisfactory showing that discriminatory practices have terminated and that recurrence of such acts is unlikely.

16. GOVERNING LAW / SEVERABILITY

This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, and the venue for any disputes will be exclusively with the appropriate court in Franklin County, Ohio. If any provision of the Contract or the application of any provision is held by that court to be contrary to law, the remaining provisions of the Contract will remain in full force and effect.

17. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable District and federal laws regarding drug-free workplace and shall make a good faith effort to ensure that all its employees, while working on District property, will not purchase, transfer, use or possess illegal drugs or alcohol or abuse prescription drugs in any way.

18. OHIO ETHICS LAW:

Vendor agrees that it is currently in compliance and will continue to adhere to the requirements of Ohio Ethics law as provided by Section 102.03 and 102.04 of the Ohio Revised Code

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VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – SPECIFIC

Under Agreement with the District, Contractor agrees as follow:

1. SCOPE OF SERVICE

- A. To provide safe transportation to and from school and school-related functions. A typical regular school year will require 176 student transportation days depending on the grade level. Total days may vary slightly from year to year and could be reduced due to revenue constraints. The District will only be billed for days that service is provided by the Contractor.
- B. To maintain orderly behavior and conduct of students on buses.
- C. To provide a close working relationship between the management of the company and the administration and management of the School District.
- D. To provide positive public relations between the Contractor, the District, and its patrons.
- E. To provide transportation schedules that allows students minimal riding time to and from school not to exceed 60 minutes unless extended riding time beyond the 60 minutes has been approved in advance by the District.
- F. Provide skilled and well-trained staff at all levels.
- G. To provide communication to parents regarding bus availability, route changes, delays, cancelations, behavior issues, safety, and other relevant information.

2. CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT

A. MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BUS/VEHICLE AGE

Average age (age is based on manufacture date) of all buses (both regular route buses and spare buses combined) shall not exceed 7 (seven) years. Vehicles that reach the following maximum age limits shall be replaced by new equivalent or better equipment throughout the term of the contract:

- Conventional gas buses – ten (10) years.
- Conventional diesel buses – twelve (12) years
- Transit buses – twelve (12) years on regular route, fifteen (15) years maximum
- Conventional small bus, type 20 or van – ten (10) years
- Multifunction type 21 school bus – ten (10) years gas or twelve (12) years diesel or transit.
- Alternative fuel buses – fifteen (15) years.

B. VEHICLE REPLACEMENT

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In order to achieve maximum efficiency, the District and Contractor will meet to decide bus capacity needed when replacements are needed.

C. APPROVAL

Both the Ohio State Department of Education and the District shall approve all used equipment.

D. VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION

All vehicles will have tasteful signage identifying Groveport Madison School District on sides and back of vehicles, shall meet all Ohio State Board of Education requirements, and look substantially similar to student school busses in Ohio.

E. CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

Contractor shall keep all equipment used for the transportation of students in strict accordance with the State of Ohio and Federal standards and specifications for school buses. Such equipment shall be maintained in safe and good mechanical order at all times so as to pass the State School Bus Inspection. Such buses and vehicles shall also be kept in a clean and sanitary condition and free from body damage including minor dents and paint scrapes of a cosmetic nature. All repairs shall be repaired within 15 days of occurrence, unless otherwise approved by the District in writing. Bumpers and wheels will be cleaned as needed to retain a fresh, clean appearance. Contractor shall administer on all buses and vehicles used by Contract in the transportation of students, an extensive preventive maintenance program which shall include the minimum:

- A safety inspection and required repairs that at the minimum completely comply with the State of Ohio's annual school bus inspection requirements. This shall be completed by August 15th of every contract year or every (25,000) twenty-five thousand miles, whichever comes first. No inspection period, from the last to the most current, shall exceed (12) twelve months.
- A daily pre-trip bus inspection. Withdrawing a bus from service if a serious defect exists, which includes, steering, brakes, primary vision, exhaust, wheels, tires or any other serious condition which may make the vehicle unsafe for student transport.

F. FLEET SIZE

Contractor shall have a fleet of adequate number and capability to guarantee service for all of the District's student transportation needs, including basic home to school service, homeless student transport, special education service, activities,

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athletics and field trips. Contractor will provide equipment that is comparable in size and configuration to the present equipment being used to provide service to the District (as seen on page 40).

Equipment will be added when needed to meet increasing needs. Additions must be pre-approved by the District. The District's initial fleet request is listed below. In addition to this, the District welcomes an alternative suggested fleet configuration by the Proposer based on information given in this RFP.

- Regular Home-to-School: Provide as a minimum sixty (60) 60-72 passenger buses (plus minimum of 2 spares).
- Special Education: Provide as a minimum six (6) 10-30 passenger (Type A or A1) buses (plus minimum of 2 spares). Seating and wheelchair configurations must meet the needs of District students, which may vary from year to year. A monitor is required for each bus. Buses transporting early childhood special education students must be equipped with seatbelts and car seats that meet state and federal requirements.
- Activities, athletics and field trips: Provide as a minimum:
 - o Two (2) 79-90 passenger buses with automatic contraction control chains for District's use on selected activity trips and, if needed, to function as a spare route bus.
 - o One (1) Type 20 vehicle limited to maximum of 15 passengers, up to 14,500 pound gross vehicle weight. Contractor will be responsible for servicing the vehicle to conform to state and federal standards.
- Where possible, the above activity vehicles may be maintained within the spare and/or regular fleet provided they are available as needed for activity use. Contractor shall dedicate vehicles for exclusive activity use if necessary to ensure availability for activity needs.
- Spare buses: Spare buses are defined as vehicles used as a temporary replacement for a regular bus for reason of breakdown, maintenance or emergency. Contractor shall keep ample spare buses and other equipment available to ensure that Contractor can provide uninterrupted student transportation service with a delay of no greater than 30 minutes in the event of a mechanical breakdown or emergency within the District. Contractor shall also have on hand personnel able to react within this time frame. Spare buses shall meet the same requirements for buses and equipment as set forth elsewhere in these specifications.

G. DISTRICT INSPECTION

The District retains the unrestricted right to inspect at any time the Contractor's facilities, buses, records, maintenance and operational procedures and driver training as well as other areas pertaining to compliance with Agreement terms

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and/or required methods of transporting students. If equipment is found by such inspection to not comply with legal or contract requirements, the Contractor shall, at its expense, immediately remove such equipment from service, and supply substitute complying equipment. Equipment removed from service, as the result of an inspection, shall not be placed back into service without complete correction of deficiency and authorization of the District in writing.

H. RADIOS

All buses will be equipped, at the beginning of the contract period, with two-way radios capable of communicating both bus-to-bus and bus-to-office throughout the District boundary. Cell phones, provided by the Contractor, will be required on trips outside the District's radio network.

I. VIDEO/DIGITAL MONITORING EQUIPMENT

The Proposer will agree to equip all regular route buses with an audio/video camera system designed specifically for use in school buses, and designed so the District and Contractor facility has direct viewing access.

- System components are to be approved by the District, and will include a camera of quality insuring identification of individuals and actions, and shall be kept in good working condition and checked at least once a week by the Contractor to verify that they are working properly. Contractor will work with the District on an archival plan.
- The Proposer will include an on-line application so that parents can monitor the individual route transportation for their student.

J. REQUIRED MODIFICATION OF BUSES

Any installation of equipment modifications required by a change in law or regulation shall be the responsibility of the Contractor. Any installation or modification of equipment required by the District in addition to laws or regulations shall be done by the Contractor, with reimbursement to be made by the District at a prior approved cost.

3. FACILITIES

The Contractor will utilize the facility located Groveport Madison Schools' District Service Center, 4400 Marketing Place, Suite C, Groveport, OH, 43215. (hereinafter the "Facility"). The maintenance space includes one bay for maintenance and repairs. Additional facility needs will be borne by the Contractor at its own cost.

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The District is currently in the process of constructing a new Transportation Center and bus garage which will include six maintenance bays and should be available for the Contractor's use by the fall of 2023.

Unless the Contractor provides their own facility that is acceptable to the District, the Contractor will lease the Facility from the District at a rate of \$2,000 per month for the duration of this Agreement and any subsequent extensions up to five years. The lease rate will increase annually using the same formula as allowed to adjustments to Contractor's rates. The District maintains the utilities and provides snow and ice removal for the traveled ways within the Facility. However, the District shall not be responsible for the Contractor's access to its busses nor entrance nor exits at this Facilities. The Contractor should anticipate supplementing snow and ice removal should they deem it necessary for their performance under this Agreement.

The District will be responsible for providing water and sewer utilities. The Contractor will be responsible for providing phone, internet connectivity, etc. necessary for their performance under this Agreement

The Contractor shall have full responsibility for equipping and maintaining the Facility in good repair and appearance satisfactory to the District and in compliance with all District, city, county, state and federal laws and requirements, including but not limited to environmental requirements. The Contractor shall be responsible for all loss protection and liabilities associated with the Facility. This statement does not limit any loss or liability requirements stated elsewhere in this proposal.

The District will be responsible for maintaining the building's roof and the Facility driving surfaces. Any structural modifications to the Facility and grounds must have prior approval by the District.

4. FUEL

It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to purchase all fuel used in the operation of school buses. The Contractor will pay all fuel invoices when due and pay all taxes and highway user fees associated with the use and purchase of all motor fuels.

The Contractor shall provide a monthly report that clearly indicates and itemizes per vehicle, the amount of fuel used, the number of miles traveled, and the average miles per gallon for the month.

The District recognizes that the Contractor may be providing transportation for charter work and Contractor business that is unrelated to services provided to the District. The Contractor will develop an accurate system that insures the District is not subsidizing non-school related charter costs.

5. ROUTING

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A. REGULAR HOME-TO-SCHOOL ROUTES

Contractor shall maintain responsibility for development of all routes and route changes. The District reserves the right to require adjustments to routes where determined by the District to be in its best interest. Once routes are established by the Parties, they shall not be altered without mutual agreement in writing and are to be considered part of this Agreement.

The District currently uses Tyler Technologies VersaTrans e-Link to provide the District, Contractor, Parents and Students real-time information regarding bus routes and student transportation information. The successful proposer will be expected to use, manipulate, and be well versed the Tyler Technologies VerseTrans system. If the successful proposer wishes to use a different system, they may do so at no cost to the District for implementation and access by the District, parents or students.

B. SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Contractor shall provide services, both in and out of the District, to transport special education students as required by the District, including provision of necessary vehicles to accommodate all special needs. It is understood that requirements for special education buses vary from day to day, requiring careful attention and rapid adjustments of vehicle schedules.

- The Contractor shall be responsible for developing and coordinating special education routes inside and outside of the District boundaries. The Contractor shall communicate routing information to both parents and schools. The Contractor shall communicate any specific changes regarding routing information to both the District's Director of Special Education and the affected parents at least 48 hours prior to the effective date of the change.
- The Contractor shall pick up and drop off special education students on the same side of the street where they reside. Contractor shall deliver the students to emergency locations whenever directed by the District.
- The District shall provide the Contractor with names, addresses, number of students, and receiving schools for special education students who are to be picked up and returned. Information received by the Contractor from out of district schools and other groups they transport for, will be forwarded to the District.
- Contractor shall maintain updated records as furnished by District on each Special education student by name, attending school, home address and phone, parent data, emergency information, and annotations on unique conditions pertaining to each student, such as behavior, disability, or health. Each driver shall have the above appropriate information for any given route with him/her at all times when driving and shall maintain current information.

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This information shall be guarded as confidential according to Federal and State guidelines and parallel state statutes and shall not remain on the bus or vehicle.

- The District reserves the authority to review and approve or modify these routes after coordination with the Contractor. In addition, The District retains the right to transport special education students (special needs e.g., van, ambulance, taxi, etc.) at any time in the future.
- The Contractor shall consider the specific safety needs of students and the adult support required in determining the size and type of bus used for transport of special needs students.

C. ROUTE DEVELOPMENT & CHANGES

The Contractor has the responsibility for developing routes and proposing changes. The Contractor will present proposed routes for the upcoming school year on or before August 1 of each year. Routes will be finalized by August 10th.

Transportation requirements may vary throughout the school year, resulting in adding or deleting buses, and combining or splitting routes. Any and all route changes shall be pre-approved by the District in writing. Contractor's bus drivers are not to modify the established District approved bus routes without District approval.

The Contractor will assist the District in communicating routing information to both parents and schools.

The District reserves the right to revise or change any and all routes and the number of buses required to best suit its needs or in the best interest of the parents or students at any time before or during the school year.

Route maps and lists will be kept current and provided to the schools and District with any changes to routes or when discrepancies are discovered.

D. ROUTE TESTING

- Prior to start of each school year the Contractor shall field-test all routes that the District has approved. Contractor shall notify the District of any time discrepancy in scheduling.
- All drivers shall "dry-run" their routes before the start of the school year. All drivers, prior to being assigned or reassigned on a regular basis, shall be required to "dry-run" their route to insure complete familiarity with route operation. The cost of this will be borne by the Contractor.

E. ROUTE OWNERSHIP

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All bus routes, regular home to school, special education, or any other routes that are developed by the Contractor for the District are and will remain the sole property of the District.

F. ROUTE NUMBERS

All buses shall have the appropriate route number for the corresponding school in the windows of the bus each and every time of providing service to a given school. Route numbers are to be professional looking and easy to read.

G. PROBLEM SOLUTIONS

If problems develop with loads, bus times, or other problems that might be corrected by route alterations, Contractor is expected to develop such solutions and present them to the District for consideration.

H. ROUTE RESTRICTIONS

In the designation and selection of routes, under this Agreement, Contractor shall be limited to operation of equipment on highways, roads and streets that are owned and maintained by the State of Ohio or any local municipality. However, the District at its option may specify that Contractor shall operate over private roads, which are maintained in a condition equal to that of the maintenance provided for public roads, given permission from property owners.

I. BUS LOAD LIMITS

Passenger loading of buses shall not exceed Ohio State Department of Education or other state or federal limits. Contractor is required to notify District, within one day, of any overload problems.

6. SCHEDULES

A. BUS ARRIVAL, DEPARTURE, TRAVEL TIMES

The Contractor in developing and driving the routes will strive to comply with the following guidelines.

- Student arrival at school in the morning (am): between 30 minutes and 15 minutes prior to school starting time.
- Bus arrival at school to pick up students in the afternoon (p.m.): no later than 10 minutes after school dismissal time for primary and middle schools and 15 minutes after dismissal time for high school.
- Riding time shall not exceed 45 minutes for elementary and middle school and 60 minutes for high school students, except in remote area of the Groveport Madison attendance areas with prior District approval in writing.

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- Buses shall not depart from school earlier than 8 minutes after school dismissal without approval of the respective school principal.

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: Should any individual child's riding time exceed 60 minutes the Proposer agrees to assume liability for any transportation non-compliance fined issued by the Ohio Department of Education ("ODOE") for non-compliant transportation. The Proposer agrees to cooperate to the maximum extent practicable in any complaint inquiry process involving the District, the ODOE, any parent or other interested party. To the extent the District is found out of compliance by the ODOE as a result of Proposer's transportation failures the Proposer agrees that it will be responsible for fines levied by the ODOE against the District.

B. SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Setting of school hours is the responsibility of the District. It is recognized, however, that school hours impact on the ability of the Contractor to efficiently meet the requirements of the Agreement. The District will inform the Contractor of any planned changes in school hours, from one year to the next, no later than June 30. The Contractor will support the District in its establishment of the best combination of school and bus schedules by August 1, with all final decisions at the discretion of the District.

C. SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS

Whenever practical, changes in scheduled route pick up or drop off times will be communicated to students, parents and schools one week before implementation.

D. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Contractor will, during the period of the contract agreement, provide transportation for all students or authorized personnel as may be required by the District on field trips, excursions, athletic activities, or other purposes designated by the District.

E. PRE-SCHOOLS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

The Contractor will, during the period of the Agreement, provide transportation for all students or authorized personnel as may be required by the District on for pre-school and summer school.

7. STAFF

A. CONTRACTOR STAFF

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For the protection of the children, drivers and other persons coming in contact with the children must be of stable personality and of the highest moral character. The District places responsibility upon Contractor and Contractor agrees that it will not allow a person to drive a school bus or work with students whose character is not of the highest level, or whose conduct might in any way expose a child to any impropriety of word or conduct whatsoever, nor shall Contractor allow a person to drive a school bus who is not at the time in a condition of mental, physical or emotional stability. Drivers employed under the current contract will have the unrestricted opportunity to apply and interview for driver positions under the new contract in the event the contract is awarded to a new contractor.

Contractor shall provide competitive wages with neighboring districts, a sufficient work force and have on hand drivers, substitute drivers, mechanics, and management during normal operating hours so as to be able to perform uninterrupted reliable on time service in case of emergencies, no-shows, and other exceptional circumstances. The Contractor will provide a detail summary of staffing proposed for the contract.

To that end, the Contractor shall provide at a minimum: --- SEE 7B below ---

The responsibility of selecting, hiring, training, supervising and disciplining of drivers and all other employees shall rest upon the Contractor. In the selection and hiring process, the Contractor shall conduct a diligent and comprehensive background investigation of all prospective employees' character, criminal and safe driving records. The Contractor will be responsible for fingerprinting all employees that come in contact with students in compliance with Ohio Department of Education requirements. The Contractor shall not knowingly employ anyone who has:

- o A felony or misdemeanor conviction within the past ten years or any conviction for a crime of violence, sexual offense, drug use or sale, child abuse or child pornography.
- o Conviction of DUI (within the last 10 years), manslaughter, leaving the scene of an accident, or driving with a suspended (within the last 5 years) or revoked license.
- o Conviction within the past two years of careless or reckless driving.
- o Conviction of more than one offense in the past three years of speeding, violation of a traffic signal, or citation.
- o A pattern of driving violations on their record.
- o Drivers must meet all requirements of the Ohio Department of Education for School Bus Drivers.

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Contractor must have in place a program for mandatory drug testing/screening for all new hires, mandatory post-accident drug testing, and random testing of all employees.

The responsibility for hiring and discharging personnel in respect to all of the foregoing shall rest entirely upon the Contractor and the Contractor agrees that it shall enter into no agreement or arrangement with any employee, person, group or organization which will in any way interfere with the Contractor's ability to comply with this requirement. The Contractor further agrees that the District shall have the right by written order to require immediate removal from the Contractor's operation serving the District any person(s) or driver(s) who in the opinion of the District, is not of appropriate personality, character, temperament or qualifications to operate a school bus as set forth in this Agreement, or who is not in compliance with this contract, the District Policy or any government laws or regulations as related to his or her job in regard to any or all of the foregoing.

B. CONTRACTOR'S PERSONNEL

- On-Site Manager:
 - Contractor shall provide a full time On-Site Manager with significant supervisory experience in the field of student transportation.
 - The District shall have the right of final approval of the appointment of the On-Site Manager and to require removal from Contractor's service to the District of any management person who has not performed to the satisfaction of the District. It is the expectation of the District that the On-Site Manager assigned to administer this Contract with the District will remain for the duration of the Contract if at all possible. The District requires six months notification of any consideration of employment status change of the On-Site Manager that is under the control of the Contractor.
 - The On-Site Manager shall have the experience, skills and necessary delegated authority to take responsibility for all requirements of the Contract and to speak fully for the Contractor. The District's expectation is that the On-Site Manager will have the ability to manage all phases of student transportation.
 - The On-Site Manager skills will include computer literacy with word processing, spreadsheets, and electronic communication (including the VerseTrans system or the Contractor's proposed equivalent).
 - The manager's duties will include all functions necessary for full administration of all Contract requirements. These shall include, but not be limited to, responding to parent concerns and complaints, coordinating with and supporting individual schools, supporting and helping implement District programs for student behavior management, driver training, etc.

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- In addition to an On-Site Manager, Contractor agrees to provide, the functional equivalent of following personnel on site:
 - Assistant On-Site Manager:
 - Contractor shall provide a full-time Assistant On-Site Manager who shall have all the duties and obligations as the On-Site Manager and be responsible to fill-in should the On-Site Manager be otherwise unavailable for any reason.
 - Contractor agrees to provide two (2) Transportation Customer Experience Representatives who will serve as points of contact for parent and District communications and who is well versed in the VerseTrans system or the Contractor's proposed equivalent.
 - Contractor agrees to provide a Dispatcher, who shall communicate with District personnel, parents and drivers so as to coordinate the safe and uninterrupted flow of transportation services.
 - Contractor agrees to provide a Router who shall be responsible for the daily buss routing.
 - Contractor agrees to provide a Trainer/Safety Program Manager who will be responsible to provide training as required under this RFP and be in charge of the Contractor's safety protocol.
 - Contractor agrees to provide approximately sixteen (16) Part-Time Transportation Aides/Monitors for student safety, and special education support (subject to student operational needs).
 - Contractor shall provide a full time Maintenance Supervisor, other than the On-Site Manager and dispatcher, experienced and knowledgeable in the area of school bus maintenance. The Maintenance Supervisor will be required to understand maintenance requirements and standards applicable to the Ohio State Department of Education student transportation service requirements.
 - ❖ There must be a minimum of two (2) full time or equivalent bus mechanics available during regular business hours. A part-time driver may be considered ½ full-time. Each mechanic must have CDL.
 - Contractor agrees to supply a Primary Driver to each route bus. The driver shall perform all ordinary and usual requirements of the position of school bus driver, and other necessary tasks to meet the standards of service and performance under the terms of this agreement, fully complying with all State and District laws and regulations.
 - Contractor agrees to provide other staff as necessary to meet the service expectations of the Agreement.

C. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF DRIVER

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- Contractor shall permit subject school buses to be operated only by well-trained and competent drivers who hold valid CDL licenses and school bus driver's certificates issued by the State of Ohio Department of Education.
- Contractor shall make its best effort to hire school bus drivers and other personnel with previous school bus driving or school transportation experience or having good aptitude for training. The most important person to the student riding to and from school is the individual driver. All drivers will be of high moral character and be positive role models for students.
- Contractor shall provide a regularly assigned driver to each route. A regular driver, for the purpose of this contract shall be a driver assigned to a specific route(s) at the commencement of each school year and is normally expected to remain until the end of the school year. The Contractor may transfer drivers among routes whenever the interest of the students may be served, but shall minimize such transfers throughout the year. The District reserves the right to request a replacement or transfer of a driver for good cause.
- The Contractor shall provide to the District a signed compliance notification prior to the beginning of each school year and by July 15th, that: 1) all drivers have satisfactorily passed a pre-trip inspection and behind the wheel test, and 2) that the Contractor has in its files a copy of the criminal verification and driving record report for each driver along with a list of drivers waiting for approval.
- A driver supervisor shall ride with every certified bus driver at least once each year for the purpose of observing and evaluating their drivers' practices with respect to safety, mechanical operation, and conformance with applicable laws, rules, regulations, adherence to specified route schedules and times and method of student management. The Contractor will submit a report to the District listing all drivers and their review dates. In addition, the District may at any time have a representative ride with any driver of the Contractor for the purpose of observation to assure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

D. STAFFING HOURS

The Contractor shall have resident at its facilities a competent manager during normal business hours between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The manager shall be authorized to act on behalf of the Contractor. Contractor shall provide sufficient support staff at other times as required by activity trips. Necessary support staff, including competent dispatchers, will be on duty until the last regular route bus returns to the bus facility at the end of the day on all days that buses are running on regular home-to-school routes or on call at other times as required by activity trips. Personnel are subject to District approval.

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Outside of hours of operations, the office phones will be turned over to an emergency answering service that can take messages and/or contact Contractor management 24 hours a day, 7 days/week.

The Contractor must have the capacity to fully staff 60 routes at a minimum and provide redundancy or access to supplemental drivers. Additional routes for charter schools, homeless/domestic violence shelter, private schools, and field trips can be bid separately. The charter, non-public, and preschool routes add approximately 10 to 12 additional routes.

E. EMERGENCY CONTACT

One or more emergency phone numbers must be provided to the District where Contractor can be reached 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in case of emergency.

F. APPAREL AND NAME BADGES

The District requires that all employees of Contractor be issued photo name badges to be worn while on duty in providing service to the District. The District also requires that all Contractor staff maintain a professional appearance appropriate for the duties, in accordance with standards to be worked out with the District.

8. REPORTS

A. DISCIPLINE AND HEALTH

Contractor shall provide the District on the day of any incident, student incident reports of behavioral, disciplinary, or health problems that arise during bus trips. For urgent situations, phone contact with the District will be made immediately.

B. ACCIDENT

- Contractor shall notify the Superintendent or designee immediately by telephone of any vehicle accident or injury.
- The Contractor will provide within two hours of an accident the number of students and staff on the bus at the time of the accident, their full names and their seating position on the bus, where applicable.
- The Contractor will provide any additional information to the District as required in District Policies and Procedures.
- Contractor shall forward within twenty-four (24) hours of each accident where an injury is sustained a written report describing all details of such accident. All other accident reports shall be submitted within forty-eight (48) hours of each accident and filed according to State law and regulations.

C. DAILY BUS REPORT (DBR)

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Contractor shall use and have drivers complete a Daily Bus Report (DBR). The DBR will form the basis of Rate base fees to the District. Reports shall be completed for each individual bus movement by date and route. The original shall remain on file at the transportation facility and be available for District audit and review on request. Final form design is to be approved by the District. The DBR will include at a minimum the following components:

- Date
- Route #
- Vehicle #
- Capacity
- Driver Name
- Sign On/Off
- Hours
- Odometer Readings
- Break out of Miles
- School or Location
- Trip #
- Starting Time
- Ending Time
- Trip Time
- # of Students
- Driver Signature

The final form design will be approved by the District, however, **Proposers are asked to submit a sample form.**

D. BUS DRIVER INFORMATION REPORTS

Contractor shall have in its files and made available to the District upon request, information such as, but not be limited to, drivers' names, dates of birth, dates of license issuance and expiration, bus to which assigned, and dates and types of training.

E. BOOKS

The District retains the unrestricted right to inspect the Contractor's buses, records, maintenance, and operational procedures and driver training, as well as other areas pertaining to compliance with the contractual terms and/or required methods of transporting students.

F. STATE REPORTS

Contractor shall furnish to the District copies of all transportation reports sent to or received from the State of Ohio related to services perform under the District Agreement. This will include annual preparation in draft form of all State of Ohio Department of Education mandated reports by August 10th of each year found at:

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Finance-and-Funding/School-Transportation/Transportation-Rules-and-Regulations>

G. INSPECTION/CERTIFICATION REPORTS

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Contractor shall, by July 1 of each year, provide written lists of all Contract buses and vehicles including year, make, size, and specifications to be used for student transportation by the Contractor or a letter from a manufacturer committing that buses will be available by August 15 of the subject year. Prior to District approval, the Contractor shall pre-inspect all the above buses, vehicles and provide the District with complete copies of the annual vehicle inspection/maintenance and certification forms as required by the Ohio Department of Education by August 15 of the subject year or no later than ten working days prior to their use by the contractor for student transportation. Contractor shall correct all discrepancies within two weeks and notify the District in writing of the same.

H. MONTHLY REVIEW

Contractor's On-Site Manager shall formally meet with District designated personnel at least once every month to report on achievements, areas of concern, activities performed in compliance with the Contract and information of interest regarding news and changes in the school transportation industry. Contractor shall make such special reports, studies and surveys regarding student transportation as are reasonably necessary to or requested by the District.

I. MONTHLY SUMMARY REPORT

By the tenth (10) calendar day of the month following, the Contractor shall supply the District with a monthly summary report. The report will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- The number of open routes
- Current number of assigned drivers
- Current number of substitute/cover drivers
- Number of drivers in training and estimated completion date
- The number of accidents
- The number of vehicle breakdowns
- How many route/runs that had to be combined or covered by a different bus route, indicating date and time per incident
- Late buses, indicating what school, route, date, day, time and reason
- Bus capacity and average daily ridership by route, AM, Mid-day and PM
- Ohio Department of Education Transportation Reports and other state data requirements.

Contractor shall be responsible for filing the Ohio Department of Education "T" reports.

J. DISTRICT MEETINGS

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Contractor's On-Site Manager shall be available for attendance at District meetings and school board meetings as needed when requested by the District.

K. ANNUAL PRESENTATION

Contractor shall be available to make a presentation annually to District designated personnel and/or the District Board of Directors summarizing the prior year's activities, latest developments within the field of student transportation, the Contractor's company, other items of interest to the District and plans for the year ahead. The District will attempt to provide a minimum of 30 days' notice to the Contractor of such presentations.

L. MONTHLY BILLING

Contractor will provide to the District, accompanying the monthly billing, a computer spreadsheet file in Microsoft Excel of the billing work up. The spreadsheet details and design are to be approved by the District.

9. COOPERATION & COMMUNICATION

Student transportation has great visibility in the community and plays a key part in the District's relationship with the community and the community's perceptions of the District. It is crucial to the maintenance of a positive and cooperative community environment, and it is an essential ingredient to the District's achievement of its educational goals, that the Contractor becomes a positive and supportive partner in communicating and conveying true interest and concern to the public. This need is so important that it constitutes a major factor by which Contractor performance will be judged by the District.

A. INQUIRIES ABOUT DRIVERS AND STUDENT PROBLEMS

Contractor will be responsible for answering inquiries from the public regarding drivers and student problems, schedules, and the various questions that arise daily regarding runs in progress. Serious problems or potentially sensitive issues or situations should be brought to the attention of the designated District official or, in his/her absence or unavailability, to another appropriate District Office administrator.

B. INQUIRIES ABOUT ROUTES AND BUS STOPS

Contractor will be responsible for answering inquiries from the public regarding routes, schedules, and the various questions that arise daily regarding runs in progress. Serious problems or potentially sensitive issues or situations should be

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brought to the attention of the designated District official or, in his/her absence or unavailability, to another appropriate District Office administrator.

C. COURTESY AND PATIENCE

The District is dedicated to its community role as a customer service organization. District patrons must find positive responsiveness in their contact with the Contractor and all of its personnel.

D. STAFF/DRIVER MEETINGS

Joint meetings for training and open exchange between District staff and Drivers will be held annually at a minimum. It is mandatory that all Contractor drivers and staff attend these meetings unless excused by the District. The Contractor and its drivers shall work in support of District policies and strategies regarding interaction with students and handling of behavioral problems. It is absolutely essential that the District and the Contractor establish open and constructive communications. This important relationship will also be a major factor in the District's evaluation of Contractor performance.

10. SAFETY PROGRAM

The absolutely critical aspect of any student transportation program is the safety of the students. The District expects a superior quality fleet, including accountability of drivers for the safe operation of their vehicles, communication with the terminal, high quality maintenance of buses, and support of District policy regarding rider behavior and behavioral problems.

- A.** Contractor shall administer a satisfactory safety program, which shall conform to the requirements of the State of Ohio and District Policies, and includes but is not limited to a regularly scheduled safety meeting for contractor's personnel. It shall also include a school bus safety and training program for students.
- B.** Prior to the beginning of each school year all drivers will have to satisfactorily pass a pre-trip inspection and behind the wheel test. During the school year any new drivers must also satisfactorily pass a pre-trip inspection and behind the wheel test.
- C.** The Contractor will develop and maintain, with District approval, a written emergency crisis plan that addresses transportation emergencies in conjunction with the District's Emergency Plan. The Contractor will instruct all of its employees in the content of both the Contractor's and the District's emergency plans. The Contractor shall develop procedures for handling student emergencies during transport to be provided to the drivers and kept on all buses at all times.

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- D. Contractor shall be available to make a bus safety presentation to classes of students in grades K-8 within the District as advised and directed by the District. These presentations will be in addition to any emergency drill sessions required by the State of Ohio. In addition, assemblies and large group presentations will be presented as requested by individual principals.
- E. Contractor will include in its proposal a copy of the company's safety policy.

11. INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Contractor shall operate during inclement weather conditions unless routes are canceled by the District. Contractor shall provide in a timely manner for appropriate equipment (chains and snow tires) and trained personnel, and shall implement District defined alternate routes as necessary to operate under such conditions. The District shall have the sole responsibility of altering bus routes or canceling bus service for that day. To ensure that the district is able to make a sound decision pertaining to the cancellation or alteration of bus routes, the Contractor is required to travel and inspect all designated roads during inclement weather and consult with the Superintendent regarding road conditions prior to 5:00 AM EST or as agreed to by the District. Should bus services be required, Contractor agrees that it will abide by the decision of the District and will operate the routes as normally as possible. During the fall of each year, Contractor shall meet with the District to determine any changes in routes that should be made during inclement weather so that the children and their parents may be notified in advance of such weather occurring.

12. STUDENT MANAGEMENT

A. DRIVER TRAINING AND CONSISTENCY

The District pursues diligently the consistent handling of student behavior issues so that our students know what to expect. It is important that our bus drivers also work for consistent treatment and expectations of students for us to jointly maintain sound District-wide codes of conduct. The District shall share District procedures and policies and the Contractor will develop and share their procedures relative to student conduct, and shall provide adequate training to its drivers in these standards. The Contractor shall maintain a continuing program to assure and promote driver adherence to District procedures and standards.

B. BEHAVIOR PROBLEM

Contractor shall follow District procedures in reporting student behavior problems relative to the buses to the building principal or his/her office. All disciplinary matters will be handled in strict accordance with the District policy. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to implement and follow through with all student

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disciplinary action including but not limited to issuing misconduct citations, following through with revoked bus riding privileges, meeting with parents, and communicating with principals and school district counselors concerning student behavior. Drivers are responsible for filling out bus citations, communicating with principals, supporting principals' actions and meeting with principals and parents when necessary. The successful bidder shall set forth in detail his proposed student discipline program. A procedure shall be developed, subject to the approval of the District, to report defined cases of student misbehavior on buses to the building principal or his office.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

In addition to, and as an important supplement to other forms of communication between Contractor and the District, Contractor's drivers and District's principals shall establish direct communications to assure timely awareness of and solution to problems.

Contractor shall be responsible for answering all calls related to drivers and student problems. Contractor is expected to work with building staff in individual school buildings in resolution of problems with students. District personnel will be available for calls that cannot be satisfactorily resolved by the Contractor. For students in alternative placements outside of the District, the Contractor shall work with the District's Director of Special Education.

13. DISTRICT PERSONNEL DRIVERS

- A.** In certain circumstances the District may desire its staff to operate Contractor vehicles to transport students. The Contractor shall allow qualified District personnel to drive such contractor vehicles for field trips, excursions, school projects, activities, sports and other District approved activities. In such cases, no driver charge will be made by Contractor to District. District personnel assigned to drive Contractor vehicles shall meet all legal requirements for the operation of those vehicles including required licensing and certification. All District qualified drivers shall meet Contractor approval. District will insure for negligent acts of district drivers and vehicle damage while operated by District qualified drivers under the District's hired vehicles policy. District shall be responsible for vehicle fuel cost.
- B.** Contractor agrees, by separate fee to District, to provide the following service for approved District staff who desire to operate Contractor vehicles:
- Contractor shall provide the necessary classroom instruction to qualify District personnel to legally operate such vehicles.

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- Contractor must also provide, upon reasonable notice, the necessary behind-the-wheel training required of those persons who have completed the classroom instruction.
- District shall notify the Department of Education as to those qualified to drive such vehicles as well as initiate drivers' records checks and maintain a current and accurate list of qualified drivers.

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VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – COSTS/FEES

1. COST/FEE STRUCTURE

Contractor will bill the District based upon the following:

A. RATE BASED FEES

- All operational costs, except as identified separately, of the Contractor are to be included in the Proposers mileage and hourly rates indicated in the RFP starting on page 46. These include but are not limited to:
 - Overhead, fuel, facilities, insurance, management/office staffing, routing and other software, mechanic staffing and equipment, service vehicle, spare vehicles, miscellaneous operating expenses, etc.
- Rate fees may not be charged for items such as state mandated drills, driver training, or test route driving.
- Contractor will also provide individual fee rates for training District staff as previously specified in this document.
- All charges to the District for mileage or travel time shall start when a bus departs the transportation facility and end when a bus reaches the transportation facility on return.

When alternative means of providing student transportation are available, Contractor shall select the method resulting in the lowest cost to District, provided transportation requirements are met.

2. CONTRACTOR CHARTERS

The District recognizes that the Contractor may be providing transportation for charter work and Contractor business that is unrelated to services provided to the District. Moreover, a Contractor may be able to combine certain public and non-public routes that could be cost effective and benefit to all Parties. The District welcomes a cost effective approach of this nature and encourages consideration of these opportunities in any proposal response. **NOTE:** Contractor will ensure that chartered buses do not show District's name on the bus when not being used by the District.

3. COMPENSATION

Contractor will bill for and be paid a monthly amount 12 months a year. Billing is due to the District by the 10th of each month for the prior month. Payment will be made by the last Friday of the current month.

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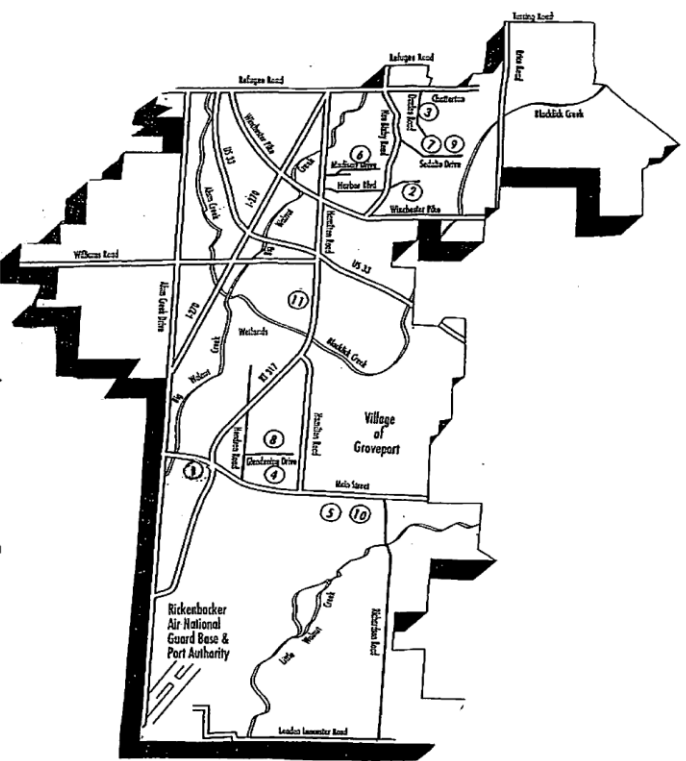
VIII. CURRENT SERVICE INFORMATION

The following information is intended to provide the Proposer with a general understanding of current District operations and their transportation requirements within the district. Proposals should meet the requirements specific within this RFP based upon maintaining the approximate current transportation service level. Proposers may describe route or other service alternatives within their proposal, but may not include such changes in their pricing proposal. The successful Proposer will have the opportunity to discuss implementation of such proposals once under agreement with the District.

1. SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP

Groveport Madison Schools

1. **Administrative Office**
4400 Marketing Pl., Suite B
Groveport, OH 43125
2. **Asbury Elementary**
5127 Harbor Boulevard
Columbus, Ohio 43232
614.833.2000
3. **Dunloe Elementary**
3200 Dunloe Road
Columbus, Ohio 43232
614.833.2008
4. **Glendening Elementary**
4200 Glendening Drive
Groveport, Ohio 43125
614.836.4972
5. **Groveport Elementary**
715 E. Main Street
Groveport, Ohio 43125
614.816.4975
6. **Madison Elementary**
4600 Madison School Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43232
614.833.2011
7. **Sedalia Elementary**
5400 Sedalia Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43232
614.833.2014
8. **GM Middle School South**
4400 Glendening Drive
Groveport, Ohio 43125
614.836.4953
9. **GM Middle School North**
5474 Sedalia Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43232
614.837.5508
10. **GM Junior High**
751 E. Main Street
Groveport, Ohio 43125
614.836.4957
11. **GM High School**
4475 S. Hamilton Road
Groveport, Ohio 43125
614.836.4964



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2. 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDARS (approximately 176 School days)

<https://www.gocruisers.org/Downloads/03%2012%202020%20Board-Approved%202021-2022%20Calendar3.pdf>

<https://www.gocruisers.org/Downloads/Approved%202022-2023%20Calendar%20for%20website.pdf>

3. SCHOOL BELL TIMES (*scheduled is subject to change*)

SCHOOL	START TIME	DISMISSAL TIME	EARLY RELEASE
Elementary Schools-M--F	9:15	3:40	1:40
Groveport Madison Middle School – M-F	8:15	2:40	12:40
Groveport Madison High School– M-F	7:15	1:40	11:40

4. SCHOOL BUS ROUTES (Regular Home to School Routes (*estimated*))

NOTE: The District anticipates approximately 60 regular routes. The Proposer should supply their estimated number of students and mileage for each route using its best estimates.

Route	Students	Mileage	Route	Students	Mileage	Route	Students	Mileage
Route 1			Route 21			Route 41		
Route 2			Route 22			Route 42		
Route 3			Route 23			Route 43		
Route 4			Route 24			Route 44		
Route 5			Route 25			Route 45		
Route 6			Route 26			Route 46		
Route 7			Route 27			Route 47		
Route 8			Route 28			Route 48		
Route 9			Route 29			Route 49		
Route 10			Route 30			Route 50		
Route 11			Route 31			Route 51		
Route 12			Route 32			Route 52		
Route 13			Route 33			Route 53		
Route 14			Route 34			Route 54		
Route 15			Route 35			Route 55		
Route 16			Route 36			Route 56		
Route 17			Route 37			Route 57		
Route 18			Route 38			Route 58		

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Route 19			Route 39			Route 59		
Route 20			Route 40			Route 60		
TOTAL			TOTAL			TOTAL		

Special Education Routes (estimated)

NOTE: The District anticipates approximately 12 special education routes. The Proposer should supply their estimated number of students and mileage for each route using its best estimates.

Route	Students	Mileage	Route	Students	Mileage
Route 61			Route 67		
Route 62			Route 68		
Route 63			Route 69		
Route 64			Route 70		
Route 65			Route 71 (lift)		
Route 66			Route 72 (lift)		
TOTAL			TOTAL		

TOTAL OF ALL STUDENTS: 5,100 eligible riders.

MONITORS: Routes with monitors or aids: 16

5. PROPOSER’S CURRENT FLEET CONFIGURATION

NOTE: The Proposer should supply their current fleet configuration with the corresponding vehicle availability for each route using its best estimates. (Add more rows as appropriate up to 72).

ROUTE	YEAR	MAKE	CAPACITY	GVW	TYPE		SPARE	OWNER
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								

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12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

Average age of all busses combined: _____

DRIVER LABOR: The current average wage rates for all drivers is _____

Current drivers are eligible for the following benefits: _____

NOTE: The Proposer should supply their anticipated average wage rates per driver and disclose eligible benefits for their drivers.

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IX. REQUIRED SUBMITTAL FORMS

The following forms must be completed by the Proposer and submitted with its proposal:

1. RFP Checklist and Compliance
2. Proposal Rate Sheet
3. Total Cost Proposal
4. Supplemental Information

1. RFP CHECKLIST AND COMPLIANCE

This Checklist Must Be Completed And Submitted With the Proposal Package.

1. Company Name:
2. Company Address:
3. Company Phone:
4. Company Fax No:
5. Company Federal Tax ID No:
6. Company Structure:

_____ Sole Proprietor

_____ Partnership

_____ Corporation _____ Corporation Type

Where Incorporated? _____

7. Key Company Officers (And All Partners If Partnership):

Name

Title

Name	Title

8. Are you domiciled in the state of Ohio? _____ Yes _____ No

9. Are you registered to do business in the state of Ohio? _____ Yes _____ No

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10. If not headquartered in Ohio, do you or your firm receive, or are you or your firm eligible for any preference in award of contracts with your state or with government bodies in your state? ____ Yes ____ No

11. If so, state the law or regulation (legal citation preferred)
Percent of preference ____ % State preference received

12. Inventory of RFP Documents Received (All documents received must be checked)

- ____ RFP Instructions
- ____ Terms And Conditions
- ____ Specifications
- ____ Costs
- ____ Complaints and Remedies
- ____ Evaluation Process
- ____ Required Supplemental Information
- ____ Required Submittal Forms
- ____ Current Service Level Data
- ____ Proposed Student Discipline Program
- ____ This RFP Check List and Compliance
- ____ Company Safety Policy
- ____ Current Contract & Rates
- ____ Addendums (list each #)

13. Inventory of RFP Documents Submitted

____ Your Proposal Document (1 hard copy and one electronic copy on flash drive)

Required Submittal Forms

- ____ This Checklist
- ____ Rate Sheet
- ____ Total Cost Sheet
- ____ All Required Signatures

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_____ Any Added Proposal Documents:

14. **ANTI-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT** - As part of its proposal, Proposer declares under the penalty of perjury, that the only person, parties or entities interested in this proposal are those named therein; that this proposal is, in all respects, fair and without fraud; that it is made without collusion with any employee, officer or director of the District; and that the proposal is made without any collusion with any other person, party or entity making another proposal in response to this Request for Proposals. It is further certified that the Proposer has not engaged in any price-fixing or any other illegal practices with respect to this proposal.
15. With regard to this Request for Proposals - Student Transportation Services, the undersigned Proposer hereby confirms that the Proposer has:
- A. Received all proposal materials as listed above;
 - B. Read and understood all proposal materials in their entirety; and
 - C. Provided true and accurate data in all materials submitted with this proposal.

Proposer further acknowledges that it has complied with all the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Printed Name of Authorized Representative

Title of Authorized Representative

Date

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2. PROPOSAL RATE SHEET

All Contractors' costs are to be reflected in the rates quoted below.

	Rate
HOME TO SCHOOL BUSING RATES	
60-72 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus 65 mile base rate	\$ _____
Excess mileage rate per mile	\$ _____
SPECIAL EDUCATION BUSING RATES	
10-30 Passenger Mini Bus w/o Lift 65 mile base rate	\$ _____
10-30 Passenger Mini Bus w/Lift 65 mile base rate	\$ _____
Excess mileage rate per mile	\$ _____
Bus monitor rate per hour , if needed (none currently)	\$ _____
FIELD TRIPS (during school hours)	
60-72 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus rate per mile	\$ _____
Type 20 Activity Bus rate per mile	\$ _____
Driver rate per hour	\$ _____
Driver standby rate per hour	\$ _____
ACTIVITY TRIPS (normally after school hours & weekends etc.)	
79-90 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus rate per mile	\$ _____
60-72 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus rate per mile	\$ _____
Type 20 Activity Bus rate per mile	\$ _____
Driver rate per hour	\$ _____
Driver standby rate per hour	\$ _____

By signing this document, I acknowledge full and complete understanding of the information contained in the Request for Proposal for Pupil Transportation Services. Further, I attest that the cost figures on this rate sheet are a true and accurate reflection of the rates/fees to be charged.

PROPOSER NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

PRINT NAME & TITLE: _____

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BASIS FOR ANNUAL ESCALATION OF FEES (if any)

For each year, subsequent to the initial year, of the service agreement period, Proposer is entitled to raise all scheduled fees. Annual increases, over the current rates, will be as follows:

Fixed Rate Increase

Year 2 – Effective 7/1/2023 _____ %

If Authorized Year 3 – Effective 7/1/2024 _____ %

If Authorized Year 4 – Effective 7/1/2025 _____ %

If Authorized Year 5 – Effective 7/1/2026 _____ %

-OR-

If by fixed annual formula or CPI indicator, calculated as follows:

OTHER CHARGES:

Maintenance of District or Other Owned Vehicles:

Mechanic Rate Per Hour \$ _____

Parts, Markup Over Cost _____ %

District Bus Driver Training Fee \$ _____

Classroom per session \$ _____

Behind the Wheel \$ _____

By signing this document, I acknowledge full and complete understanding of the information contained in the Request for Proposal for Pupil Transportation Services. Further, I attest that the cost figures on this rate sheet are a true and accurate reflection of the rates/fees to be charged.

PROPOSER NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

PRINT NAME & TITLE: _____

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3. TOTAL COST PROPOSAL

The following calculations will be used to evaluate the Contractors' pricing in the bid evaluation. Use the proposed rates identified on pages 44-45. The mileages are based on estimated route mileages as identified on pages 39-40; actual mileages will vary. The following cost sheets are to be used only as information for the District in calculating and comparing the costs of the proposals. Actual monthly invoices from the Contractor to the District will be calculated by using the actual route miles and/or hours being traveled.

CONTRACTORS NAME: _____

HOME-TO-SCHOOL

Regular Home-to-School Routes (65 daily routes, 176 days)

65 mile base rate \$ _____ X 65 routes X 176 days = \$

Excess mileage rate \$ _____ X 15,850 miles = \$

Special Education Routes (6 daily routes, 176 days)

10-30 Passenger Mini Bus w/o Lift

65 mile base rate \$ _____ X 5 routes X 176 days = \$

Excess mileage rate \$ _____ X 64,000 miles = \$

10-30 Passenger Mini Bus w/Lift

65 mile base rate \$ _____ X 1 route X 176 days = \$

Excess mileage rate \$ _____ X 18,300 miles = \$

TOTAL YEARLY HOME-TO-SCHOOL = \$

By signing this document, I acknowledge full and complete understanding of the information contained in the Request for Proposal for Pupil Transportation Services. Further, I attest that the cost figures on this rate sheet are a true and accurate reflection of the rates/fees to be charged.

PROPOSER NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRINT NAME & TITLE: _____

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FIELD TRIPS & ACTIVITIES

Field Trips

Use rate for 60-72 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus

Rate per mile \$ _____ X 4,500 miles = \$

Rate per hour \$ _____ X 120 driver hours = \$

Rate per hour \$ _____ X 40 standby hours = \$

Use rate for Type 20 Activity Bus

Rate per mile \$ _____ X 1,100 miles = \$

Activity Trips

Use rate for 79-90 Passenger Transit or Conventional Bus

Rate per mile \$ _____ X 17,500 miles = \$

Rate per hour \$ _____ X 1,000 driver hours = \$

Rate per hour \$ _____ X 500 standby hours = \$

Use rate for Type 20 Activity Bus

Rate per mile \$ _____ X 3,000 miles = \$

TOTAL YEARLY FIELD TRIPS & ACTIVITIES = \$

By signing this document, I acknowledge full and complete understanding of the information contained in the Request for Proposal for Pupil Transportation Services. Further, I attest that the cost figures on this rate sheet are a true and accurate reflection of the rates/fees to be charged.

PROPOSER NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

PRINT NAME & TITLE: _____

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OTHER FEES AND OR CHARGES

Any other potential fee charged under this proposal must be listed below. Attach additional sheet if necessary

IS THERE AN ADDITIONAL SHEET ATTACHED?

WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION? ____ Yes ____ No

TOTAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS = \$

Credit for Outside Use

List the billing credit per bus, per mile or hour, to be provided to District for use of fleet buses serving the District, which are used by Proposer for outside charter services.

By signing this document, I acknowledge full and complete understanding of the information contained in the Request for Proposal for Pupil Transportation Services. Further, I attest that the cost figures on this rate sheet are a true and accurate reflection of the rates/fees to be charged.

PROPOSER NAME: _____

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

PRINT NAME & TITLE: _____

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X. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

In additional to the required submittal forms, Proposer must include discrete information to address each of the areas listed below which will provide a major basis for evaluation. Proposer is encouraged to include other information not listed that will assist in the understanding of its proposed services and which may distinguish them from its competitors.

1. COMPANY QUALIFICATIONS

- A.** How many years has the company been in business? Have there been any name changes or changes in ownership? If so, please describe fully the changes that have occurred in the last ten years.
- B.** List all public school transportation contracts currently held in Ohio, showing the name of the district served, number of routes and the number of students being transported for each contract or if company has not done business in Ohio, comparable information from one other state.
- C.** For each of the above districts closest in size to the Groveport Madison School District (up to 5), provide the following:
- Length of the current contract
 - Number of regular route buses
 - Number of on-site employees at the end of the 2019-2021 school years
 - Total number of employees who quit or were terminated during the 2019-2021 school years
 - Driver profile by years of tenure on site and years of experience/service in driving school bus
 - Length of tenure of the On-Site Manager and other staff
 - at this location
 - with your company
 - in the student transportation industry
- D.** For the operation closest in size to this District, provide the following (one copy to be submitted with proposal):
- Driver's manual
 - Driver training plan
 - Employee incentive plans
 - Wage Schedule
 - Job description of the On-Site Manager
 - Management manual

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- E.** During the last five years have any contracts been terminated by school districts you serve during the life of the contract? If so, give complete details, including school district name.
- F.** During the last five years has your company lost a contract from a district that had previously been served by your company? If so, give complete details, including school district name.
- G.** Describe any present or prior litigation (last 4 years) your company has or had with any customer.

2. FINANCIAL STABILITY

Provide the following financial information for the company's last completed fiscal year: the year ended, the current ratio, the quick ratio and the debt to equity ratio.

Has the company or parent company filed Chapter 7 or 11 bankruptcies within the last 5 years? If yes, provide explanation and evidence of successful financial recovery since the bankruptcy.

3. SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE

- A.** Explain how you would determine at what point additional buses might be required to handle increased student enrollment/ridership or possible rerouting.
- B.** How you would monitor adherence to route schedules?
- C.** Give specific examples from the past of emergencies, such as school shut downs, emergency closures, school fires, etc., and how your company responded. Submit sample documents currently in use in a district served by your company for handling such emergencies.
- D.** Provide a roster of all proposed staff required to meet the needs as specified in this request for proposal. Include position titles, FTE for each position, and days worked for each position.
- E.** It is in the District's interest that all employees have clear expectations as to the job they are performing (and to see that the job they are performing is in alignment with District service and quality expectations). Proposer must submit complete and detailed job descriptions for each position and performance standards. Proposer must submit a full description of the training program provided for its drivers.
- F.** Proposer shall provide maintenance personnel experienced and knowledgeable in the area of school bus maintenance. Maintenance personnel will be required to understand maintenance requirements and standards applicable to the Ohio

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Department of Education. Provide the qualification requirements for your maintenance staff.

- G.** Explain how your company will assure the District that substitute drivers will be available and prepared to perform reliably and safely.
- H.** Explain how through the course of the contract you would work to make the operation more efficient and cost effective. Give examples of what you've done in other districts and specifically what thing you could do to improve service and costs for the District.
- I.** Give any alternative suggested fleet configuration by the based on information.

4. QUALIFICATIONS OF MANAGEMENT

The District strongly believes that the individuals in management positions are critical to the provision of consistent and high-quality transportation services. We expect the On-Site Manager to be a visible and participating member of our community and to enhance the reputation of the District for sound management.

- A.** Describe your company's structure in terms of the decisions that are made at each level. What decisions can be made by your On-Site Manager, and which areas require approval from the central office of your organization? What are the timelines involved?
- B.** Identify the person who will be the proposed On-Site Manager and provide a resume.
- C.** In the event of an extended absence of your On-Site Manager, what backup will be provided? If an individual, give his or her name and include a resume.
- D.** Give examples of the documents that are submitted to your company by your On-Site Managers on a regular basis.
- E.** For key personnel providing support for the On-Site Manager, including those individuals in direct supervisory positions over the On-Site Manager, provide the following information:
 - Name and proposed position the person may be selected to fill
 - Tenure with your firm in years
 - Experience in related positions within your firm or with other firms in years
 - Current and two most recent previous positions, including the location/district of the position, the position's title, a description of responsibilities and authority, including the number of buses and/or drivers, and the dates between which the position was held.

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- F. Provide the names and qualifications of those persons within your company who would have immediate authority over the On-Site Manager and those persons who would play an advisory role to the On-Site Manager in the areas of a) operations, b) training and personnel, c) safety and d) maintenance.

5. QUALIFICATIONS OF DRIVERS

The most important person to the student riding to and from school is the individual driver. All drivers will be of high moral character and be positive role models for students.

- A. What programs do you use for enhancing employee morale and attitudes?
- B. Outline the methods you use for recognizing employee service. Give specific examples.
- C. Enclose a copy of the Proposer's drug policy, including procedures for mandatory testing, to be implemented in this District. Provide the name and address of the Proposer's Medical Review Officer (MRO).
- D. Within your organization, what percentage of your drivers has been with the company for five, ten, fifteen and twenty years?
- E. Describe your process for the recruitment of drivers.
- F. Define the methods you use to screen and select drivers from among the applicants. Include the criteria/standards you use, and the reasons that you might use to reject an applicant.
- G. Describe your training program for driver applicants who have no experience driving school buses. Describe the program components and content of your training program, and include an outline of the course of study.
- H. Describe your in-service training and retraining program for drivers. Describe the program components and content of your training program, and include an outline of the course of study. Define the amount of training provided to drivers in a twelve-month period.
- I. Describe in detail your current driver motivation, evaluation and discipline programs, including how you take into account safety, absences, tardiness, on-time route performance, tenure on the job, complaints, driving practices.
- J. Describe how you monitor absence rates.
- K. What are your policies for driver interaction with students?
- L. Describe your experience and procedures for transporting students with disabilities.

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6. RESPONSIVENESS TO DISTRICT NEEDS

The company that provides transportation services will have adequate buses to guarantee service for all District student transportation needs.

- A.** How does your company monitor early and late arrivals at bus stops?
- B.** In the event that there is a temporary need for more than the number of buses specified in this Request for Proposals, would you be able to respond? If so, where would the additional buses be obtained?
- C.** Provide information regarding strike provisions and past experience.

7. SAFETY OF OPERATIONS

A critical aspect of any transportation program is the safety of students. The District expects a superior quality fleet, including accountability of drivers for the safe operation of their vehicle, communication with the terminal, and high quality maintenance of buses.

- A.** Provide information regarding your established, continuing safety program, describe the operation, contents, and requirements of the program.
- B.** Describe how your company meets Ohio's OSHA safety requirements including frequency, format and description of meetings.
- C.** Each Proposer shall demonstrate the effectiveness of its ongoing safety programs by submitting its workers' comp mod rate (if separate policies are in force, show the rate for five comparable school districts you serve).
- D.** Submit a narrative description of how your company has handled a recent specific bus accident in one of your current contracts. Include lessons learned for future incidents.
- E.** Describe the preventive maintenance program for the vehicle fleets that your company manages. Include samples of records, checklists and a description of how you ensure that each vehicle actually receives the required maintenance within the scheduled interval.
- F.** In addition to legally required bus checkout reports, submit any forms used to receive reports from drivers on the condition of their vehicle.
- G.** Describe your mechanic allotment schedule and the qualification and experience requirements that you have for mechanical personnel.
- H.** List other emergency instructions and how your company has handled these situations.
- I.** Describe your present procedures for inclement weather conditions.

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- J. Describe your experience and procedures for transporting students with disabilities.
- K. Describe your experience and procedures for transporting students considered homeless.
- L. Describe your training program(s) for students.

8. EVIDENCE OF POSITIVE PARENT, SCHOOL STAFF AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- A. Give specific examples of the nature and frequency of presentations that you have made to school boards.
- B. Give examples of three difficult situations faced in your current contracts that have risen to the level of school board concern, and describe how you handled them.
- C. Give examples of lesson plans and materials used in classroom presentations on bus safety and related matters.
- D. Describe in detail your complaint management procedures. Include documentation and samples of forms used.
- E. Describe how your company logs complaints and how the information is used.
- F. Provide a detailed explanation of how discipline and management of students is handled, including a description of the roles of the driver, transportation supervisor, principal, classroom teacher and parents and students.
- G. Describe in detail your proposed student discipline program.
- H. Describe any procedures and policies used in dealing with parents and the public.
- I. Describe the ways in which your company has been involved in the communities it serves.

9. EQUIPMENT USED

- A. Provide a detailed schedule of the proposed bus fleet configuration.
- B. Describe in particular the major equipment that will be on site for maintenance and repair of buses.
- C. History of Break Downs: Proposer shall furnish a recap, for the previous twelve operating months, showing a history of equipment breakdowns or failures that occurred in at least one school district approximately the same size as the Groveport Madison School District. Information should include the date breakdown occurred, part or equipment that failed, if breakdown resulted in late

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arrival to school or home and if so how late, and as a result of equipment breakdown or failure was a spare bus dispatched.

- D. Describe your company’s preventive maintenance program for your vehicles. Include a copy of your written maintenance program if one exists.
- E. Describe your company’s process of evaluating school bus needs.

PROPOSED FLEET CONFIGURATION FOR THIS PROPOSAL
(add additional rows as needed)

ROUTE #	YEAR	MAKE	CAPACITY	GVW	TYPE	FUEL TYPE	SPARE	OWNER
1	20??	Chevy ??	10-70??	29800	HTS??		Y/N	??
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

10. FACILITIES

Describe if you feel the existing facility at District Service Center located at 4400 Marketing Place, Suite B, Groveport OH 43125 will meet the Contractors needs in servicing the District’s student transport requirements under this Agreement. If not, what additional needs would you have?

11. OIL RECYCLE PROGRAM

Describe your company’s oil recycling program, if any.

12. INSURANCE DATA

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- A.** Provide copies without omission or gaps of actual insurance policies' cover pages "or similar document" covering Workers' Compensation, commercial general liability, automobile liability, umbrella excess liability, additional insured working, and hold harmless wording for the last three years.
- B.** Provide the names and addresses of the insurance companies, insuring your operation for: Commercial General Liability and Property Damage, Automobile Liability, Umbrella/Excess Liability and Workers' Compensation for the last three years.

The Proposer hereby declares understanding, agreement and certification of compliance to provide the items and/or services, at the prices quoted, in accordance with all terms and conditions, requirements, and specifications of this RFP, any prior issued amendments, and final services agreement. The Proposer further agrees that the language of this document shall govern in the event of a conflict with his/her proposal. The Proposer should, as a matter of clarity and assurance, also sign and return the RFP and all amendments.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE		DATE	
PRINTED NAME		TITLE	
COMPANY NAME			
MAILING ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP			
		FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NO.	
PHONE NO.	FAX NO.	E-MAIL ADDRESS	