



February 23, 2026

To: Josh Swanson  
From: Business Office  
Re: Advance Capital Purchases

The district is requesting approval to order 3 buses and 9 vans in advance of the adoption of the fiscal year 2027 capital budget. Supply chain and manufacturing delays continue to impact the commercial and automotive industry. The intent of this advance order is to ensure the arrival of the vans as close to the start of the school year as possible. The school buses will likely take much longer to arrive.

Current fleet statistics:

1. 101 buses, 6 student transportation vans and 1 mobile classroom bus in the fleet.
2. With this purchase, 3 regular education buses will be replaced (2012 models) due to high mileage and increasing maintenance costs.
3. Replacement of one 10-passenger van, a 2015 with high mileage
4. 6 new mini-vans and 2 new 10-passenger vans, all which will be used to bring Tassel transportation back in-house and support other unique routes.

The purchase of 8 new vans to transport Tassel program students is a shift in practice for the district. In recent years, these students have been transported by an outsourced transportation provider, but the district has experienced increasing costs and disappointing customer service results. By increasing the fleet of vehicles, the district will be able to save money over time while also setting higher customer service expectations and accountability for the drivers. It will also provide greater flexibility in providing transportation for other unique student needs.

The estimated cost of the vehicles is \$900,000, which is a similar financial investment to previous years. Funding for the vehicles will be provided through a combination of the annual operating capital budget and capital project levy.