

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

1130 North Salisbury Street ▪ West Lafayette, Indiana 47906-2447
(765) 746-1602 • FAX (765) 746-1644 • www.wl.k12.in.us

TO: Dr. Shawn Greiner, Superintendent
Board of School Trustees

FROM: Michelle Cronk, CFO

DATE: September 6, 2023

RE: Bus Purchase

The Transportation Department has requested the purchase of an 84-passenger conventional bus for budget year 2024. Doug Caldwell, the Transportation Director, recently obtained bids from the Central Indiana Educational Service Center which provides the service of obtaining bids on various items that school corporations might need. The results of the bid are included in your board packets. This bid cycle is closing soon and in order to get this lower pricing (prices will increase with the next cycle), we need to place the order now. The bus is not expected to be delivered until well into 2024 at this time.

Only two companies are currently producing 84-passenger rear engine transit busses—Blue Bird and Thomas. Of the two, Thomas came in the lowest with a base price of \$156,808 and a built-out price of \$184,896.

Please approve the recommendation to purchase the Thomas bus at the cost of \$184,896 so that we can place the order for delivery in 2024. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let me know.