

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**Bid Recommendation of 500,000 or Greater**  
**55-117R - School Buses**

**Rational**

The Student Transportation and Fleet Services Department (STFS) currently has 1,268 buses within its fleet. The purchase of ninety-five (95) new buses will supplement the existing fleet and ensure the fleet size is adequate to efficiently and effectively execute existing routes. Fifty-eight (58) of these buses will be clean diesel models forty-six (46) of the fifty-eight (58) will have heavy-duty wheelchair lifts installed to accommodate the growing needs of the District’s special needs population.) In support of the District’s green initiatives, thirty-seven (37) of the buses will be propane auto-gas models. This purchase will also allow for the removal of the oldest buses within the fleet which is the most effective way to improve fuel efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

Purchasing through the State bid allows the District to benefit from the buying power of the sixty-seven (67) Districts in the State of Florida. The warranty as stipulated in the Florida Department of Education Bid 2015-01 is for five (5) years with unlimited mileage. Additionally, Student Transportation & Fleet Services has opted to extend the air conditioning warranty for five (5) years, which allows the district to further reduce maintenance cost.

**Financial Analysis**

The original funding request for bus purchases for the 2015-16 school year through the District Education Facilities Plan (DEFP) was \$24.5 million. This funding level was needed for the first year of the Five-Year Plan to systematically reduce the number of vehicles over 12 years of age. The final amount approved was \$10.3 million (See Attachment “DEFP for Transportation Services”). The final cost of each bus is determined by the individual specifications requested for each model. After all specifications were chosen, the \$10.3 million allowed for the purchase of ninety-five (95) buses. (See Matrix below.)

<b>Bus Information</b>				
<b>Type of Bus</b>	<b>Blue Bird “C” 77 Lift</b>	<b>Blue Bird “C” 77 Non-Lift Propane</b>	<b>Blue Bird “C” 77 Diesel</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total Number</b>	46	37	12	95
<b>Cost per bus</b>	\$ 112,126	\$ 105,766	\$ 100,987	
<b>Total</b>	\$ 5,157,796	\$ 3,913,342	\$ 1,211,844	\$ 10,282,982
<b>Additional Accessories</b>				
<b>Accessory</b>	<b>Q-Straint</b>	<b>Hard Drives</b>		
<b>Total Number</b>	25	30		
<b>Cost per item</b>	288	325		
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$ 9,750	\$7,200		\$16,950
				\$ 10,299,932

**Additional Purchase**

The technical high schools plan to purchase three (3) buses for students during and after school activities. The buses will be funded from the Workforce Development Reserve Fund. Each bus costs \$100,987, for a total cost of \$302,961.

<b>Bus Information for the Technical High Schools</b>	
<b>Type of Bus</b>	<b>Blue Bird “C” 77 Diesel</b>
<b>Total Number</b>	3
<b>Cost per bus</b>	\$ 100,987