

To: Alan Hawkins, Pauline Aportria, and Members of the School Board
From: Janet Hoskin & Pat Fowler
RE: Van Replacement
Date: February 18, 2010

The “Transportation Department” is requesting the replacement of the existing seven passenger and fifteen passenger vans with the purchasing of a new eight passenger van.

The 15 passenger van, a 1998 Chevy G3500 with 76,197 miles, was taken off the road on August 24, 2009 due to failing inspection. The 7 passenger van, a 1999 Chevy Astro with 94,000 miles, is showing signs of age, wear and tear and will require many items to be fixed prior to it’s inspection in April. Since the Blue Book value on the Astro Van is approximately \$900, and the current quote on parts alone is \$1500-\$2000, it doesn’t seem fiscally responsible to get it repaired.

Over the last number of years, these vans have been used not only by Community Services, but also the schools (High School, Middle School, Pond Cove School) and the School Department’s Instructional Support Services.

Community Services has used both of these vans to transport children and adults to/from local activities (ie. hikes on the Greenbelt trails or taking small groups to play golf). During the Summer season, both vans have been used on our Adventure Trips and for off-site “CapeAbility” Camps.

A few years ago, the Federal Department of Transportation issued a warning that 15 passenger vans provide a safety risk. Since that time, only the Astro van has been used by the school department.

- **Instructional Support Services** uses the van daily for student transportation to and from school. Each school’s Instructional Support program uses the van to transport small groups to local locations for classroom work.
- **High School, Middle School, and Pond Cove School** use the van to transport staff, students, and parents to programs, activities and conferences. When possible, a van is also used by small athletic groups for team travel since the van is a more cost efficient option than using a bus.

Replacing the two vans with a new vehicle would upgrade the safety standards of the vehicle used as well as provide for a more cost efficient option for travel.

The Astro van use history for the last few years is:

2002-2003	8288 miles
2003-2004	10,064 miles
2004-2005	3939 miles
2005-2006	4200 miles (approximately)
2006-2007	6727 miles (approximately)
2007-2008	14,240 miles
2008-2009	15,436 miles

We have received one bid/quote from Pape Chevrolet for a 2010 Chevrolet Express AWD Passenger Van 1500 (8 passenger). We are awaiting bids/quotes back from several other local dealers. The vehicle specifications we are currently seeking are:

2010 Chevrolet Express: AWS Passenger Van 1500 1LS package that will have vinyl seats and floors

Transmission:

4-speed automatic, electronically controlled with the 5.3L V8 SFI FlexFuel Engine

OPTIONS:

Defogger, rear-window electric

Battery, heavy-duty 770 cold-cranking amps, maintenance free

Cold Climate Package

Engine Block heater

Trailer equipment, heavy-duty

Seating 8-passenger, (2-3-3 seating configuration)

Convenience Package, power windows and door locks

Convenience Package, Tilt-Wheel and cruise control

Glass, swing-out rear cargo door windows

Glass, swing-out side door windows

Glass, Solar-Ray deep tinted

Emissions state requirements

Wheels, 4-17"x7" / Tires front P245/70R17 all season blackwall

Airbags: frontal, driver and right front passenger & head/side curtain provides coverage for the first 3 rows only

Seats, front bucket with vinyl trim

Door Locks: power

Floor covering, full-length black rubberized vinyl

Air conditioning, single zone manual

GVWR, 7300 lbs

Mirror, inside rearview manual day/night

Visors, driver and front passenger, vinyl

Mirrors, outside manual, black

Rear Axle, 3.42 ratio

StabiliTrak, traction assistance and vehicle stability enhancement system

Audio System, AM/FM stereo

Trailer wiring, 7 pin sealed connector

License plate kit, front

Glass, full-body window package

Body, standard

Paint, solid