



## BIGFORK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 38

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Home of the  
**VIKES**  
and  
**VALS**

September 5, 2019

To: Board of Trustees

From: Rob Tracy

Subject: 2020 Ford Expedition Type E School Bus

I am requesting Board approval for the purchase of a 2020 Ford Expedition "Type E, eight passenger, "School Bus" from Don Aadsen Ford. This vehicle meets the state requirements for a reimbursement of .50 cents per mile when used for an OPI approved route. It also meets the Five Star crash test rating established by the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board).

We feel this vehicle will aid in the transport of SPED students as well as students from the Intermountain Program. It will also lower our cost of maintenance. Experience has taught us that when transporting small numbers of students all over Bigfork, maneuvering a bus can be a challenge and often not the safest means because of stops which don't have adequate turning radius or an area where a three point turn cannot be negotiated.

The Expedition will also be used for Activities especially non-funded sports where the number of participants is low.

The bids are as follows:

Don Aadsen Ford, Ronan	\$45,133.00
Kalispell Ford, Kalispell	\$45,328.00
Lithia Ford, Missoula	\$53,416.00

In comparison:

Type "D" school bus which holds as many as 84 passengers would cost approximately \$130,000

Type "A2" school bus/van conversion which holds 49 passengers would cost approximately \$75,000.

Both Type "D" and Type "A2" buses average 9- 10 mpg and are offered in diesel or gas.

The Ford Expedition averages 16-21 mpg and comes with a powerful 3.5L ECO V-6.

Yearly maintenance for the Ford Expedition is estimated to be \$150- \$200.

Yearly maintenance for a Bus is estimated to be \$700- \$1,000.

Attached are pictures of different buses along with the Ford Expedition.

Delivery is estimated to be 8-12 weeks form receipt of the order.

SCHOOL BUS TYPES



A **Type "A"** school bus is a van conversion or bus constructed utilizing a cutaway front-section vehicle with a left side driver's door. The entrance door is behind the front wheels. The definition includes two classifications:

**Type A1**, with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 10,000 pounds.



**Type A2**, with a GVWR greater than 10,000 pounds.



A **Type "B"** school bus is constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is behind the front wheels. This definition includes two classifications: Type B1, with a GVWR less than or equal to 10,000 pounds; and Type B2, with a GVWR greater than 10,000 pounds



A **Type "C"** school bus is constructed utilizing a chassis with a hood and front fender assembly. The entrance door is behind the front wheels.



A **Type "D"** school bus is constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels.



A **Type "E"** school bus is district-owned, is designed to carry 10 or fewer passengers, has an overall safety rating of five stars from the national highway traffic safety administration at the time of purchase, is insured in accordance with minimum coverage requirements set forth in 20-10-109, and is purchased after 7/1/2017.