



**Bus Purchases Report
Board Meeting
January 16, 2024**

During the 2023-2024 budget preparation discussions it was, in principle, agreed to; should the division end in a financial surplus the division will allocate the surplus funds to the bus reserve to purchase a bus. The bus fleet is aging and in the past 12 months Seven motors have blown and the buses are no longer usable. The department has assessed the buses. Buses with a blown motor, low miles and a solid frame are considered for motor replacement. The cost of a motor replacement will range from \$37,000 to \$50,000 depending on the motor, time and all parts required.

With the most recent bus purchases there are no funds in the bus reserve to purchase a motor or bus. Depending on the cost of the replacement motor the department can consider using operation funds The department will have to consider the timing of purchasing to make the accommodation.

When purchasing a bus, through the provincial tender, the manufacturer says it is 12 to 16 months from the time the order is made to the when the bus is delivered. When considering purchasing a bus, the option of purchasing lightly used or off the manufacturer/dealership's lot is preferred given the quick turnaround time.

The audited financial statements determined there is a surplus of \$180,000 of funds available. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Learning is reviewing the request for the division to keep funds from the sale of the Green Church and Reynolds School. Should the funds become available to the division a request for the following request will be made.

At this time, the board has time and can consider what to do with the 2022-2023 surplus.

The request is to transfer funds in the reserve and will be used or considered for:

- Purchase of a bus off the lot
- Purchase a replacement motor.
- Purchase from another school division
- Purchase from the provincial tender

The funds are needed to be readily available should the division like to proceed to purchase a bus.

Recommendation

The board transfer funds to the reserve and gives authorization to the Secretary-Treasurer and Transportation Manager to consider purchasing a bus or replace bus motors.

Motion

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve funds from the accumulated surplus up to the limit of \$180,000 to be transferred to the bus reserve for the purchase of a bus or a replacement motor.

Jody Thiessen CPA, CGA
Secretary-Treasurer