

TO: School Committee
FROM: Don Sawyer, Business Manager
DATE: January 25, 2009
RE: Bus Transportation RFP Options

As we prepare the RFP for contracted bus transportation services beyond the current contract that ends on June 30th, 2009, the options to include in the RFP discussed thus far as follows:

1. **Current Service Level** – no change to current services for Grades K thru 12, one mile minimum radius from applicable school buildings.
2. **Minimum Required by Law** – the minimum transportation services required by MGL which includes Grades K thru 6, two mile minimum radius from applicable school buildings.
3. **Eliminate High School Transportation** – include Grades K thru 8, one mile minimum radius from applicable school buildings.
4. **Combine UHS & Whitin Middle School Transportation** – change school day start/end times at UHS and Whitin in order to provide service to both schools in one bus run. This option would translate into two total bus runs per day.
5. **Split Taft Elementary School Transportation** – divide school day start/end times at Taft for Grades K thru 2 combined and Grades 3 thru 4 combined. Since the elementary school bus run currently requires the highest number of buses to be maintained in the total fleet, this option reduces the required total fleet size. This option would require additional sub-options:
 - a) Would necessitate a fourth bus run in order to provide UHS with transportation;
 - b) Eliminate UHS transportation should a fourth bus run not be an option.
6. **Additional Optional Items:**
 - a) Fuel Escalation Clause on each of the options above.
 - b) Change in maximum “Bus Stop” distances from home and included in contract
 - c) “Bus Fees” would be a consideration of the Committee (not included in RFP)