

TRANSPORTATION RFP QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Will the CCSD accept alternate proposals? Answer on Tuesday was yes.

A: CCSD will accept alternate bids based on the addendums that have been included.

2. Were the contractors paid for days not operated due to COVID? Answer on Tuesday was that contractors were paid as if business was usual.

A: Contractors were paid as if business was usual

3. How many routes are wheelchair routes?

A: Currently, there is one wheelchair vehicle being used by the current contractor

4. Will CCSD supply us with a copy of the last transportation state report?

A: A copy of the last state report will be attached to this email.

5. CCSD uses Transfinder RoutePRO, which is operated by the district. Will the district give access to the contractor? Answer on Tuesday was yes, read only.

A: The school district will be responsible for all routing and looks to use the knowledge of the contractor to make improvements. The contractor will be provided with read-only access to Transfinder.

6. CCSD owns the 10,000 gallon diesel fuel tank, which is located on Hubbard's property. Will this tank need to be moved? Does the district have a site to place the tank on district property or will it need to be moved to the successful contractor's location?

A: The contractor is responsible for purchasing, renting, or otherwise providing fuel storage and filling facilities for Crawford Central School District. As pertaining to the district owned tank, it will be sold or disposed of, as per district policies.

7. It was stated on Tuesday that gasoline is purchased from a local filling station and reimbursed to the contractor. Is there any consideration for the district to obtain the fuel cards and purchase the fuel directly to save money on the taxes?

A: The district would be willing to work with the contractor to come up with efficient ways of fueling.

8. Would the district consider waiving the performance bond requirement if the contractor provides the district with financial stability?

A: See page 27 of the RFP for the Performance Bond Waiver deduction option.

9. Are there currently midday and/or after school runs?

A: There are extra-curricular runs after school but currently no every day after school or midday routes.

10. Excluding Act 80 days, how many school days are there in the calendar?

A: 179 Days

11. Please confirm all bus aides are employees of the contractor and how many bus aides are needed.

A: The aides are employees of the contractor and there are currently 5 being used in the district.

12. Will the district provide all RFP documents in Word/Excel?

A: Word document was sent out to all contractors.

13. Clarification on who is responsible for routing?

A: Please see REVISION 1

14. Requesting a copy of the current contract that includes current rates.

A: Document on Dashboard

15. Requesting a copy of all routes including stops, times, and tiers.

A: Document on Dashboard

16. Requesting a copy of the current driver and aide wage scale

A: Included in attached current contract located on dashboard

17. Requesting copies of transportation invoices received by the district from January 2021.

A: Documents on Dashboard

18. Question: Is the district aware of a facility within the district boundary that is appropriate for this service?

A: At this time the district is not aware of what type of facility would best suit the needs of an incoming contractor.

19. Is the age of vehicle requirement set in stone?

A: Sticking with the RFP, we wish to keep the age of vehicle requirements as they are written.

20. Are the insurance requirements set in stone?

A: CCSD is requesting you bid according to the RFP. Please See Addendum A to offer alternative pricing according to the insurance requirements of the current contract.

21. There are a high amount of spares specified in the RFP, can that be changed? Usually percentage around 10-15% extra vehicles

A: CCSD is requesting you bid according to the RFP. Please See Addendum B to offer alternative pricing for the 10-15% range.

22. Why is the bid only 35% based on cost?

A: While cost is the major driving factor of the contract, other factors related to service and safety must also be considered.

23. Where do you get gasoline?

A: The district would be willing to work with the contractor to come up with efficient ways of fueling.

24. Can we clarify what we are asking for with the ONE TIER price

A: The district is willing to work with the contractor in the event that an emergency occurs or changes are made. The ONE TIER price has been removed from the RFP

25.a. When would the bidder receive the funds back? Under what circumstances would the funds not be returned to bidder and be retained by CCSD?

A: Funds would not be returned if the contractor is unable to fulfill the requirements of the contract in an unsatisfactory manner.

26.2. Can you provide explanation of what interior cleaning and disinfecting consists of? Page 8, section d

A: The contractor shall furnish daily interior cleaning and disinfecting. Exterior cleaning will be done at least twice a month while vehicles are in service. Vehicle windows must be clean and clear, while all numbering must be always visible. All vehicles must be free of snow and ice accumulation prior to leaving the bus depot.

27.3. Related to integration with commercially licensed routing software, what Student Information System(SIS) does CCSD currently use? See Pg. 11, section 12/c.

A: We currently use Sapphire as our SIS

28.a. Does CCSD have any plans on changing this system in the next 7 years?

A: At this time there is no discussion of changing the system.

29.b. How often is the data in this system updated?

A: Information is updated daily.

30.4. Does CCSD require the ability to EDIT routing data in the required commercially licensed routing software? See Pg. 11, section 12/c.

A: All editing in the routing data software is to be completed by the district official.

31.a. If yes, how many concurrent editors does CCSD require (each editor costs more \$). VIEWING data without the ability to edit is secure by username/password, but is otherwise unlimited in the number of viewers.

A: The software was purchased and will be maintained by the district.

32.b. CCSD states that commercially licensed routing software must be “on-site”. Will CCSD accept the use of cloud-based software (which is replacing locally installed software and servers for most all modern routing software suites)?

A: The software was purchased and will be maintained by the district.

33.5. CCSD requires two separate phones and answering systems for HBS. See Pgs. 4 and 5, section 3/a and b. Does EACH line need to be fully staffed by a separate person at all times?

A: No, but at least one person must be available to answer phones at all times.

34.b. CCSD also requires a third, unlisted “hotline” between CCSD and HBS that is to have highest priority for answering one hour before/after morning and afternoon runs. Does this line need to be fully staffed separately from the above mentioned lines or can the same person(s) staff this line?

A: No, but at least one person must be available to answer phones at all times.

35.6. CCSD requires written notification of the use of a spare bus. See Pgs. 8 and 9, section 8/j. Note that this may not be possible until after the fact.

A: It is understood by the district that the notification may not be possible until the use of the spare is completed in an emergency capacity.

36.7. Would CCSD be willing to not require CCSD's name on the side of contracted vehicles and instead permit the contractor's name? See Pg. 9, section 8/m.

A: CCSD is willing to work with the contractor to comply with Chapter 171.

37.8. HBS desires to replace existing diesel-powered buses with gasoline powered buses due to commonly known issues with current EPA diesel engines in school bus applications. Does CCSD agree to adjust MPG from 7.5 to 5 for fuel reconciliation and other calculation purposes? See Pg. 11, section 10/j.

A: CCSD is willing to adjust the MPG based on industry standards for different vehicles.

38.9. Please provide clarification on how to maximize the state reimbursement formula? There are many ways to design routes to maximize the state reimbursement that may not be viewed as efficient or logical. See Pg. 11, section 12/a.

A: The district is willing to work with the contractor to come up with ways to maximize the state reimbursement. Below is a brief explanation from the state. For more information please visit

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/Pupil%20Transportation/Pages/default.aspx>

- Mileage Allowance

- Maximize approved daily miles

- *Daily miles with* pupils should be greater than *daily miles without* pupils

- UPCM Allowance

- Maximize the greatest number of pupils on the bus at any one time during the day

39.10. CCSD requires, at their request, two base station radios, two portable radios and two vehicle installed radios. See Pgs. 12 and 13, section 12/j. Where does CCSD want these radios installed?

A: CCSD will work with the contractor to come up with the best placement of the radios.

40.b. CCSD states that HBS will pay for service and maintenance of these radios for CCSD. Will CCSD pay for the initial parts, equipment and labor install costs for these particular radios?

A: The cost of the radios will be the responsibility of the contractor.

41.a. Would CCSD approve the use of less than four cameras where appropriate? (Vendors have indicated that even in large buses, THREE modern wide-angle HD cameras are sufficient to cover all areas of interest by CCSD in a full-size type-C bus. 36 passenger or less type-A buses may only need two cameras.)

A: CCSD would be willing to discuss camera options with the contractor.

42.b. How long does CCSD want camera footage to be available for?

A: A minimum of 30 days

43.12. CCSD requires that all drivers be outfitted in a company labeled garment and that drivers be professionally dressed. See Pgs. 14 and 15, Section 20/a. Would a vest and/or a hat with company logo be adequate to meet the company labeled garment requirement?

A: Yes

44.b. Please provide a list of unacceptable attire.

A: Clothing should be clean and durable. Anything a driver or monitor wears should provide for a full range of movement allowing the employees to drive, complete proper pre and post trip inspections, load and secure wheelchairs, and evacuate in case of an emergency. Transportation employees should have footwear that is fully secured on their feet, provides good traction, and shields the skin on their feet from the elements and hazardous materials.

45.13. CCSD requires GPS tracking of all contracted vehicles. See Pg. 15, Section 22/a. Other than location, what other data does CCSD require to view?

A: CCSD require GPS tracking on contracted vehicles for the purpose of location in the event of an accident or emergency.

46.b. What refresh rate on GPS data does CCSD require?

A: CCSD would be willing to discuss the refresh rate on the GPS data with the contractor.

47.c. Must spare vehicles have GPS tracking?

A: Yes, spares must have GPS tracking.

48.d. Does CCSD desire non-CCSD officials (such as parents) to have access to some or all GPS data?

A: CCSD does not require any non-CCSD officials have access to any GPS data unless given special permission by the district.

49.e. How long does CCSD want GPS data to be available for?

A: CCSD is willing to discuss this with the contractor

50.14. CCSD requires “hands-free” public address equipment inside all buses. See Pg. 15, Section 23/a. “Hands free” public address equipment is not available as an option from HBS’ desired bus manufacturer and would need to be retrofitted and adapted with aftermarket parts. Would CCSD accept a readily available, standard handheld-push-to-talk microphone?

A: CCSD is willing to accept the standard handheld push to talk system.

51.15. After discussions with vendors of vehicles and other related equipment, due to supply chain issues, setup, training and configuration time, many of the equipment and technological requirements of this RFP will not be able to be put into place by the beginning of the 2022-23 school year. Does CCSD agree to not penalize HBS and allow new equipment and technologies to be implemented as they become available?

A: CCSD is willing to discuss a timeline to implement any and all technology required in the RFP.