



PRESS RELEASE // Central Bucks School District

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For Immediate Release

Why is Central Bucks Considering Transportation Outsourcing?

Since the 1990's Central Bucks has contracted with First Student, Inc. for 40% of the district's transportation needs. In addition to serving our own 23 public schools, the district and First Student also service 110 private and parochial schools. On a daily basis more than 22,000 students are transported. The current contract between the district and the transportation union permits some outsourcing.

In June of 2011 the district moved an additional 37 school buses and routes to First Student, making transportation services a 50/50 split between district operated and First Student operated buses. The savings to the taxpayer by outsourcing to First Student is nearly \$10,000 per bus, per year. For the 2011-2012 school year alone, outsourcing 37 buses, saves the district \$370,000 a year. If the district outsources the remaining 130 buses, it will save an additional \$1.3M annually for a total savings of $((37 + 130) \times \$10,000 = \$1,670,000)$ \$1,670,000 per year.

Nearly 80% of school districts in Pennsylvania outsource some of their transportation needs. For Central Bucks School District, the decision to outsource is purely a business decision. The district is pleased with the work of its drivers, but can no longer support paying the state required pension contributions and ever-escalating healthcare costs for this service. CB's typical bus driver has a daily run schedule of 5 hours per day, works 184 days a year, and currently receives full-time health benefits and a pension plan.

First Student drivers must be trained according to state requirements, and pass the same stringent state and federal background checks as Central Bucks drivers. These outsourced school district transportation jobs will remain local to our school district. They are not moving off shore to another country.

First Student school buses must pass a state inspection twice per year just like Central Bucks. In addition, First Student buses must also be inspected by the Pennsylvania State Police each year.

The district plans to maintain a management team to ensure that Central Bucks residents continue to receive the level of quality, safe transportation service they have been accustomed to receiving.

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