

Consider award of RFP 2526-105 Charter Bus Service

1. Background:

Southwest ISD advertised and solicited proposals for Charter Bus Service for the 2026-2027 school year. Charter bus services include same-day, round-trip, and overnight trips for students and staff. District staff opened proposals on May 19, 2026. Proposals were received from Avalon Motors, LLC, CTA Worldwide, Distance Brothers Transportation Services, El Paso United Charters, LLC, First Class Transportation, Freedom Charters and Tours, LLC, Imperial Bus Company, Inc., LA Services, LLC, Monarch Charters, LLC, OK Tours, Regent Coach Line LTD, Sam's Limousine and Transportation, Inc., Star Shuttle, LLC, and Tour-rific of Texas. The charter fleet, safety inspection policies, emergency procedures, drug testing policies, references, pricing, and insurance coverage were reviewed. Carrier safety records were verified with the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles for each company that submitted a proposal.

2. Process:

RFP 2526-105 was issued for soliciting proposals from Charter Bus Service companies.

3. Fiscal Impact:

The total estimated cost for the 2026-2027 school year is \$300,000. The Charter Bus Service contract with the awarded companies will commence on August 1, 2026, and continue through July 31, 2027. The estimated yearly costs may increase or decrease if trips are added or removed, and may also include additional fuel surcharge fees due to the uncertainty of the supply of crude oil affecting pricing. The funding will be provided through locally budgeted, grant, and student activity funds.

4. Recommendation:

District staff is recommending that the board approve Avalon Motors, LLC, CTA Worldwide, Distance Brothers Transportation Services, El Paso United Charters, LLC, First Class Transportation, Freedom Charters and Tours, LLC, Imperial Bus Company, Inc., LA Services, LLC, Monarch Charters, LLC, OK Tours, Regent Coach Line LTD, Sam's Limousine and Transportation, Inc., Star Shuttle, LLC and Tour-rific of Texas to provide charter bus services for the 2026-2027 school year. The awarding of all vendors will provide the district with a catalog of approved, verified charter bus vendors for campuses and departments to use as needed and to combat the recent rise of last-minute cancellations of previously contracted charter trips.

5. Required:

Board action