

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title:	Student Transportation Services		
Date:	July 9, 2012	Item Number:	
Administrator:	Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent 		
Attachments:	Student Transportations Services Memo		

Action Needed For Discussion Information Other: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

First Student initially contracted to provide student transportation services to the District from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2011. The District issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a second five-year contract and First Student was the sole responder with higher than acceptable costs. A one-year contract extension was negotiated with First Student which expired June 30, 2012. The District issued another RFP January 3, 2012, for another five-year contract. Again First Student was the only responder.

During the May 7, 2012, meeting the Board of Education passed a motion approving a five-year contract with First Student, Inc. for the costs submitted in their RFP. Since then the administration and First Student have continued negotiating other terms in the contract but have not yet reached final agreement. Due to time constraints for ordering buses and preparing for the next school year, it is imperative that the administration enter into a student transportation contract as soon as possible. The administration has met the requirement in Board Policy 3313 to solicit formal proposals for this service but to date has been unable to finalize an agreement with the sole proposer, First Student. To enable the administration to enter into a timely contract upon acceptable terms, the Superintendent needs authority to proceed in other directions prior to the next board meeting in the event the negotiations are not fruitful.

Accordingly, the administration requests that the board authorize the Superintendent to continue negotiations with First Student for a new transportation contract, enter into a one-year or five-year extension of the existing agreement with modifications as he may deem necessary to address this year's requirements, or to enter into negotiations with a different vendor for the student transportation contract for five years without again seeking competitive proposals.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The administration requests that the board authorize the Superintendent to continue negotiations with First Student and enter into a new transportation contract, to negotiate and enter into a one-year or five-year extension of the existing contract with changes he deems necessary, or to negotiate and enter into a five-year contract with a different transportation vendor without issuing an additional RFP as is deemed in the best interests of the District by the Superintendent. The Superintendent may proceed simultaneously with these options.