



July 1, 2024

Forrest M. Bird Charter School  
Mary Jensen Charter Administrator  
615 South Madison  
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Dear Mrs. Jensen:

This letter is to request a cost-of-living increase as per the transportation contract page 5, Cost of Living Escalator: "Effective July 1, 2022, and for subsequent years of this contract, general transportation, field trip and activities and down-time shall increase by the greater of 3.5% or annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) Urban, All Items determined in April of each year. <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/>. Contractor will provide FMBCS a formal letter annually.

Based on April 2024 CPI rate of 3.4%, the contract will increase by 3.5% for the 2024-2025 school year.

The 2023-2024 school year transportation rates:

- **General School Transportation**
  - Cost Per School Bus, Per Day, Five (5) Hour Minimum: \$505.61
  - Overage Cost, Per Hour: \$101.12 Hour
  
- **School Field Trips & Activity Transportation**
  - In-Town Cost Per School Bus, Two (2) Hour Minimum: \$202.25
  - Overage Cost, Per Hour: \$101.12 Hour
  - Out-of-Town, 60 miles RT Minimum: \$3.12 Per Mile
  - Driver Down-Time: \$24.99

**PPE / Sanitizing Expense** Pass Through

The items may include but not limited to: gloves, mask, disinfectant and hand sanitizer for the bus, etc. We would want a mutually agreed upon / approved plan.

**School Closures**

- a) "Closure" shall mean when more than fifty percent (50%) of all students enrolled at an educational facility served by Contractor are not physically attending class at the educational facility due to causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include: acts of God or the public enemy, acts of the federal, state or local government in its sovereign capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, unusually severe weather or mechanical failure of heating, cooling or other environmental systems. Closure includes a "soft closure," which shall mean when students are not physically attending school or class, but instead are attending school remotely, using internet access, video links, or printed materials.
  
- b) On or before the 5th day of each month after which a Closure on an Instructional Day occurs, the Contractor shall submit to the District an invoice, which shall identify the



request for payment under this Alternative Payment Schedule and include the date(s) of the Closure. On or before the 20th day of the month in which the invoice is submitted, the District shall pay the Contractor as follows:

- i. If a Closure on five (5) or fewer Consecutive Instructional Days occurs, the School shall pay the Contractor one hundred percent (100%) of the Daily Rate per route per Instructional Day the Contractor does not provide transportation due to a Closure.
  - ii. If a Closure on more than five (5) Consecutive Instructional Days and fewer than twenty (20) consecutive Instructional Days occurs, the District shall pay the Contractor seventy- five percent (75 %) of the Daily Rate per route per Instructional Day the Contractor does not provide transportation due to a Closure.
  - iii. If a Closure on twenty (20) or more Consecutive Instructional Days occurs, the District shall pay the Contractor Sixty- five percent (65 %) of the Daily Rate per route per Instructional Day the Contractor does not provide transportation due to a Closure.
- c) For the purposes of this Alternative Payment Schedule, the calculation of Consecutive Instructional Days shall begin anew or reset upon the occurrence of a day when fifty percent (50%) of all students enrolled at an educational facility served by the Contractor are physically attending class at the educational facility.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time 406.296.8845.

Sincerely,  
*Wes Tangen*

Wes Tangen  
Transportation Manager  
[wes.tangen@harlowsschoolbus.com](mailto:wes.tangen@harlowsschoolbus.com)

Customer Acknowledgement

Signature: *Mary J. Jensen*  
Printed Name: *Mary J. Jensen*

Cc: Jacob Iverson Sr. Vice President, Josh Kinard Director of Operations, Tess Sindelar Assistant Transportation Manager