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135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

May 5, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT AMENDMENT: School Transportation Services

RECOMMENDATION:

That the School Committee approve an amendment to the following contract for regular student transportation services; funds to be provided from the General Fund. Procurement procedures for this amendment have complied with Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Period of Amendment</u>	<u>Negotiated Rate</u>
Eastern Bus Company PO Box 514 Somerville, MA 02143	3/16/20 – 6/30/20	75% of Daily rate (Per contract)

DESCRIPTION:

This contract amendment allows continued payment to the vendor during the Governor’s mandatory closure of schools between March 16 and June 30, 2020 at 75% of the contractual daily rate for the purpose of ensuring that transportation services, an essential operational service, will be available when schools reopen.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Federal Stimulus Bill passed by Congress in response to COVID19 set aside funding for K-12 education and has made such funding contingent upon school districts, “to the greatest extent practicable, continuing to pay its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to coronavirus.” In addition, the Mass. DESE has provided guidance that school districts should: “continue payments for outsourced operational services that are needed to ensure continuity of essential services when schools reopen. Such payments may be conditioned on negotiated changes to contracts” related to the state of emergency. The amendment gives consideration to the vendor’s fixed cost and requires the continued payment of salaries and benefits to all its employees related to the Cambridge contract.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12...” motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money. I require the affirmative vote of four members.”

BUDGET REFERENCES:

Fund		Account		Dept.	
15000	General Fund	53301	Student Transportation	885750	Transportation

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Sahn, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools