

## **Filling an Open Bus Route or Transferring a Route**

All 'OPEN' bus routes will be posted for a minimum of five (5) work days. When a bus route becomes open, the specific route (including, but not necessarily limited to, the expected route to be completed, the seat allowance, and the expected mileage) will be officially posted at the Central Office and on the web-site for at least five (5) work days, if at all possible.

No cash value is, or should be, associated with a bus route per the Contract between the Bus Contractor and Franklin County Board of Education. This includes, but is not limited to, establishing an excessive price for the bus itself, over and above blue book value or quotes from vendors used by the school system for similar buses of similar age and condition. Any attempt to 'sell a bus route' could result in the termination of the Contract between the bus owner and the school system.

There will be no 'buying of a bus' or 'bidding for a bus/route' when a bus route becomes open or is about to become open.

A Bus Contract can only be transferred as included in the latest Contract. If a transfer is approved, the appropriate paperwork including bill of sale, title, transfer paperwork, registration, etc. must be made readily available. The route, when approved for transfer, shall be operated for the remainder of the current school year at the rate negotiated in the latest I contract, per same seat and mileage pay as every other contractor.

Proposals for 'acquiring a route' must be submitted and then the awarding of the route will be made after the merits of all proposals are submitted.

'Qualified' individuals are encouraged to speak with the Supervisor – Transportation, Safety, and Facilities and then submit a written proposal. To qualify, the individual must:

1. Demonstrate the ability to place a quality bus on the route immediately; and
2. Demonstrate the ability to place a qualified driver in place immediately – to include, but not limited to, successfully complete the criminal background check and have a valid CDL with the appropriate school bus endorsement.

A 'Proposal' for the open bus route may be submitted by:

1. A proven driver who wishes to be a owner-driver;
2. A proven contractor who wishes to operate another route and has demonstrated the ability to provide timely service with high quality drivers and well-maintained buses;
3. An individual who wishes to become a contractor-driver but does not have any experience;
4. An individual who wishes to become a contractor but will employ a qualifying driver; or
5. A group of individuals, or company, firm, etc. that wishes to become a contractor and will employ a qualifying driver.

After careful study of the submitted proposals, the Supervisor – Transportation, Safety, and Facilities will make a recommendation to the Director of Schools in regard to filling the open bus route.