

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Donald Evans, Interim Superintendent  
Ruth Alahydoian, Chief Financial Officer

**PRESENTERS:** Ruth Alahydoian, Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** March 22, 2023

**RE:** **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE DISTRICT'S TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

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**PURPOSE:** To approve a transportation plan for home to school transportation for students.

**BACKGROUND:** AB181 adopted last year by the State Legislature requires local school districts to develop transportation plans by April 1 this year and to update them annually. The legislation also provides funding of approximately 60% of the prior year's costs. For Piedmont, annual transportation costs are between \$300,000 and \$400,000. The State only provides \$12,000 towards that cost. This legislation will generate an additional **\$150,000** per year to be applied toward transportation.

Prior to this new law, the District was required to provide home-to-school transportation for special needs students per their Individual Education Plan (IEP) and homeless students. The new legislation adds the requirement to provide free transportation to "unduplicated" students (low income, English learners and foster youth). It also requires the plan to describe how we provide transportation services to all students.

AC Transit has started a program to provide free bus passes to low income students. The program has not been extended to Piedmont neighborhoods yet, but is expected to be available in the next year. Once the program is available, eligible Piedmont students can apply directly to AC Transit for the pass. In the meantime, the District will purchase and provide bus passes for students who need them.

The Transportation Plan follows the structure of the legislation and is required to be developed in consultation with various stakeholders.

**NEXT STEPS:** The Transportation Plan will be implemented.

**FISCAL IMPACT.** The District may incur additional costs to provide home to school transportation to students who are low income, English learners or foster youth who had not previously requested transportation. The District will qualify for additional transportation funding from the State.