



Zion-Benton Township High School District 126
Office of Business Services

MEMO

June 24, 2025

To: Board of Education
From: Dr. Jesse Rodriguez, Superintendent
Dr. Jim Woell, CSBO

The EPA grant was funded and we will receive 2.8M in reimbursements for the purchase of 10 EV buses. The total cost for these buses is \$3,709,600. This leaves \$909,600 that the district will need to fund.

We have procured an additional \$450,000 in rebates through ComEd bringing our upgrade cost down to \$459,600.

Because these buses will now arrive in October of 2025 instead of August 2026, we need to address infrastructure needs in order to charge these vehicles when they arrive. We purchased the buses at this year's prices instead of waiting a year and incurring an increase due to inflation and the threat of tariffs.

As of today, we will be able to procure 10 EV chargers and all ancillary support items for just under \$72,000. These can all be reused when the bus lot is reworked in 2026. I have received a very reasonable price, \$101,000, from Associated Electrical Contractors, LLC who is currently conducting our Phase 3 renovation work

In order to fund the infrastructure improvements, I am looking to add this project into the current Phase 3 renovations as a change in scope in order to get the work completed in a timely manner. I will have a package price ready for the June 24, 2025 board meeting.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accepts the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Phase 3 renovation project expansion to include the purchase of 10 EV bus chargers and the infrastructure work to support these chargers in an amount not to exceed \$175,000.