## CLARINDA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Clarinda Community School District Board of Directors,

September 5, 2024

Attached you will find Bids from Truck Center Companies for a Thomas Built Bus and School Bus Sales for a BlueBird Bus. Due to our aging fleet of Buses I ask that we proceed with ordering a new Bus to be delivered in the 2025-2026 fiscal year if at all possible.

Several of our Route and Activity buses have well over 100,000 miles and 4 of our buses are over 10 years old. One is our 2009 spare bus slated to be the one needing replaced with 153,000 miles on it. Two of our current activity buses have over 100,000 miles on them. The proposed addition to the fleet would be used for routes if needed but would mainly be designated for activity trips. My thoughts are that we need the newest and most reliable buses as trip buses due to our expanded area of travel for sports and other outings. The older buses can then be used on local routes that are easier and better accessible and less costly for service calls in case of a breakdown.

Due to the problems we've encountered with the activity bus and somewhat poor service from School Bus Sales on that bus, I am recommending that the district accept the bid for the Thomas Bus from Truck Center Companies for \$179,344.00 with delivery slated for late 2025-2026 fiscal year or early 2026-2027.

Sincerely.

Richard F. Iske

Transportation Director

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