



June 5, 2017

Dear Mr. Noble,

You inquired about the timeline for implementing a two-tier transportation system starting in the fall of 2017.

The original date for moving to a two-tier system or retaining the current three-tier system was May 1. Since the Mayor's announcement, we have been in communication with city staff and First Student, our transportation vendor, to better understand key dates and the required approval process for both the city and Seattle Public School District.

In order to prepare for next year, which includes developing the new route schedules, ordering the busses, and communicating with families and community partners, we need final approval from the city by **June 15, 2017**.

Our School Board moved ahead with a tentative acceptance of the \$2.3M. This was done in preparation and hope that funding will materialize. If the investment is approved by the city, we will be ready to move quickly and communicate to our families and other stakeholders.

We will continue to work on two-tier scheduling issues, specifically those that affect secondary schools and extra-curricular activities. **If we don't have final approval from the city by June 15, we will continue with a three-tier bus system for the 2017-18 school year.**

Thank you for your help with this issue. We wish our legislature would fully fund education including transportation. In the meantime, we deeply appreciate your creativity and support.

Sincerely,

Stephen Nielsen
Deputy Superintendent
Seattle Public Schools