

15. Transportation and Food Service

❖ Describe the school's plan for transportation, including any plans for contracting services.

Our charter school will work with all of our parents in establishing safe transportation to and from school. We will encourage parents to drop their children off and pick them up and form car pools to do so. However, if the need arises for bus transportation we will investigate local transportation companies including contracting with the School District.

Within the funding provided by the State for transportation, the school plans to work with the District to provide transportation for students. Students residing within two (2) miles of the school (one mile for kindergarteners) will be expected to furnish their own transportation unless there are hazardous walking conditions. Students living outside the two miles but within four (4) miles will be eligible for transportation. Transportation may be considered for students living beyond 4 miles through depot stops, and on a space available basis.

Transportation will be provided by bus. Our first choice is to negotiate for transportation services with Sarasota County Public Schools. If the County is unable to provide negotiated services, we will request consideration for any surplus busses that may be available for our use.

If necessary, the Charter School will purchase a second hand bus from Florida Transportation Systems and set up a promissory note between the LLC and Imagine Schools for a 60 month payment schedule. A licensed driver with appropriate state training will be hired to drive our students. Appropriate insurance will be attained, and state certified technicians will provide the required scheduled maintenance. All buses will meet all appropriate safety regulations.

Our Governing Board and administration will monitor our transportation policy

The Charter School is planning to assist parents in general transportation. Parents will be encouraged to carpool or have their child walk or ride (via bicycle) to the school if at all possible. We may explore partnering with local organizations such as places of worship which have small buses and organize various pick up points for students in the county. With consent from our parents we will help formulate a carpool program prior to school starting.

Imagine Charter School at Northport will work in conjunction with the District to meet the needs of students whose IEPs include provisions for transportation. School operating funds will be allocated to meet this need utilizing ESE Guaranteed Funding that would follow the child.

To facilitate our transportation plan we aim to ascertain the needs of our parents as it relates to transporting children via information meetings and the school's website.

❖ Describe the school's plan for food services, including any plans for contracting services.

The Charter School's first choice for food service is to contract with the school district. If we are