

19. Contract with Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority – SEPTA
(\$34,000,000)

Action Item - 19

Title: Contract with Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority – SEPTA (\$34,000,000)

Board of Education Meeting Date: 6/26/2025

Action Under Consideration:

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute and perform a contract, subject to funding, as follows:

With:

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

Purpose:

Student Fare Cards and passes

Start date: 7/1/2025

End Date: 6/30/2026

Compensation not to exceed:

\$34,000,000

Location:

All Schools

Renewal Option:

N/A

Description:

The Department of Transportation Services (Transportation) seeks Board authorization to enter into an annual contract with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) to purchase Student Fare Cards for eligible students during Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26).

Why is this contract needed?

This annual contract is essential for providing approximately 63,000 eligible students, from public, charter, and non-public schools, with access to SEPTA's public transportation system for their daily travel to and from school. Ongoing Board approval is crucial to maintain uninterrupted transportation access throughout the District. The full cost of the Student Fare Card is reimbursed through the State Transportation Subsidy.

How will the success of this contract be measured?

The availability of dependable, secure public transportation for eligible students measures the success of the contract with SEPTA. In addition, success is measured by SEPTA's ability to provide the resources that allow students access to the public transportation network.

Which Goal and/or Guardrail does this Action Item support?

Has this investment been discussed during a progress monitoring session?

Which session?

This contract directly supports the Board of Education's Guardrail 1. Welcoming and Supportive Schools.

Does this Action Item support a specific strategy/intervention identified in the Strategic Plan?

Yes, this action supports the School District's Strategic Plan by promoting student well-being, equity, and operational efficiency. By providing approximately 63,000 eligible students with access to SEPTA buses, subways, light rail, and regional rail, the District reduces barriers to attendance, with consistent and equitable transportation options across all school types. Approving this contract allows the District to continue leveraging public transit infrastructure to meet students' transportation needs effectively.

Related resolution(s)/action item(s)

N/A

Funding Source(s)

FY26 - Operating Fund

Office Originating Request:

Operations - Transportation Services

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