FORT THOMAS

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

HIGHLANDS HIGH
HIGHLANDS MIDDLE
JOHNSON ELEMENTARY
MOYER ELEMENTARY
WOODFILL ELEMENTARY

April 21, 2009

RECEIVED
APR 23 2009
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COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

Elaine Farris, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Learning and Results Services
Kentucky Department of Education
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Ms. Farris:

The Fort Thomas Independent School District is composed of three elementary schools, a middle school and a high school. Enrollment as of March 2009 was 2,482 students. Because it is an urban district, with students living very close to school, bus transportation to and from school is not provided. There are only two small school buses owned by the district. These are utilized for special needs students, trips and the like, when available.

Due to the fact that there are almost two and a half thousand students and only two small school buses, when it is necessary to transport students to field trips or extra-curricular activities, there are innumerable occasions when a school bus is not available for this transportation. On these occasions, charter bus service is utilized. When charter service is utilized, the Board contracts with TANK, Executive Charter, Croswell, Crown Car & Coach, Lakefront Line, Klug, and/or First Student. The charter service that is available and provides the lowest price is selected.

702 KAR 5:060 §6(2) requires that all student trips that involve a common carrier require board approval on a case by case basis. Such approval is impractical in Fort Thomas since these charter services are used for over 200 trips annually for athletic trips, field trips, class trips, and other extra-curricular activities.

In view of the foregoing, at its board meeting of April 20, 2009, the Fort Thomas Board of Education asked that I apply to the Kentucky Department of Education for a **waiver of the requirement of case by case approval and allow the Board to approve all transportation carriers at the beginning of the school year.**

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John R. Williamson
Superintendent

TAKING TRADITION to the Next level

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