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News

District approves upgrade to bus routing software

Published: Wednesday, March 16, 2011

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By **MATT DECEMBER**

Sometimes you have to spend money to save money.

That is the philosophy the Romeo Community Schools Board of Education took during a March 7 meeting when it approved purchasing an upgrade for the district's bus routing software, Edulog. The purchase would upgrade the system to include the use of global position system units on each bus.

The board approved the resolution 6-1 with President Sara Murray voting against.

Frank Rydquist, director of transportation for the district, discussed with the board the benefits of purchasing and implementing the GPS upgrades to the Edulog system, including the annual savings and additional benefits for his department.

Rydquist said the upgrades will reduce bus idle time, reduce route deviation, reduce unscheduled stops and provide the ability to track the location of RCS vehicles at all times.

According to David Massoglia, the district's executive director of business services, the financial impact on the district will include an annual estimated savings of \$60,694 but added that there will be a one-time cost of \$20,288 and an annual cost of \$37,725.

Massoglia said if those savings do not manifest, the district will be able to terminate the service to eliminate the annual cost.

Rydquist said the system upgrades were examined several years ago but the transportation department didn't come forward with a proposal because the costs were high enough that the savings were not there.

Rydquist said this system will optimize routes, which is what will create most of the projected savings.

"I have accurate distances and times, so instead of having an 8-hour route or a 6-hour route I will be able to migrate it to 7-hour routes or 6.75 (hour routes)," he said. [Continued...](#)

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