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Press Release

A for Arizona Awards \$785,000 to Improve School Bus Safety

For Immediate Release

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YUMA, AZ - The Yuma Schools Transportation Consortium (YSTC) continues to improve bus-rider safety, thanks to a \$785,000 grant from the Arizona Transportation Modernization Grant Program. This award will enhance the safety of its bus-riding students by installing cameras, turn-by-turn navigation systems, and location monitoring of students while on Consortium buses.

This grant will enhance the safety of bus-riding Yuma students by installing cameras that will provide photographic evidence in an accident scenario or discipline case on a bus. In addition, location tracking will reduce parents' stress by allowing them to quickly verify the location of the buses their children are riding or the children's entry and exit times. Lastly, the GPS and turn-by-turn navigation systems will increase driving safety and decrease driver stress, thereby increasing bus driver retention and driver satisfaction.

In a recent press release, A for Arizona announced that in this second round of the Arizona Transportation Modernization Grant Program, a total of \$6.9 million in grant awards will fund 15 proposals throughout the state of Arizona. As a recipient of this grant cycle, the YSTC aims to improve bus-rider safety, the bus-driver experience, and parents' satisfaction with the transportation program. Within two years when the grant is completed, all YSTC buses will be equipped with these safety improvements.

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