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Press Release

Reducing Diesel Emissions in Yuma

For Immediate Release

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YUMA, AZ - With a grant through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Clean Diesel Grant Program, Yuma Elementary School District ONE will reduce diesel emissions. The district was awarded \$103,482 in funds to support the State Clean Diesel Program and benefit air quality.

The Diesel Emission Reduction Act provides funding to replace one 2004 and one 2006 diesel school buses with two 2023 liquid propane gas school buses to reduce ozone pollution. The funding for this grant comes to Maricopa County from the Environmental Protection Agency and by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Matching funds of 75% will be provided by Yuma Elementary School District ONE.

Reducing diesel emissions supports Yuma Schools Transportation's mission to safely transport children to and from school. Ron Schepers is the Director of Transportation for both Yuma Elementary School District ONE and Yuma Union High School District, and is instrumental in improving the current fleet of school buses. Schepers states, "With a fleet of 176 school buses between both districts traveling over 12,000 miles daily, reducing emissions and improving air quality plays an important role in keeping students safe and healthy." With this grant, the Yuma Schools Transportation fleet will have converted 57 diesel school buses to liquid propane gas buses since 2013.

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