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## **Media Release**

### **Reducing Emissions One Bus at a Time**

For Immediate Release

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YUMA, AZ - District One is improving air quality and reducing emissions, one school bus at a time thanks to a \$239,790 grant through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Clean Diesel Grant Program.

The Diesel Emission Reduction Act provided funding to replace one 2004, one 2006, and one 2007 diesel school buses with three 2025 liquid propane gas school buses to reduce ozone pollution. The funding for this grant came to Maricopa County from the Environmental Protection Agency and by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Matching funds of 65% were provided by Yuma Elementary School District ONE.

Reducing diesel emissions supports Yuma Schools Transportation's mission to safely transport children to and from school. Since 2013, Yuma Schools Transportation has converted 74 diesel school buses to liquid propane gas, with 54 of these replaced using bus replacement grants. 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 183 school buses across both districts covering nearly 2.4 million miles each year, reducing emissions and enhancing air quality is crucial to ensuring the safety and health of students."

## END ##