



## NEWS RELEASE

### Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

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**Sept. 24, 2018**

#### **NEW BUS TO DRIVE KIDS TO CLEANER FUTURE**

MDAQMD Governing Board members take ride on zero-emission school bus

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

VICTORVILLE — Members of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's (MDAQMD) Governing Board members were treated to a ride on an electric school bus Monday to see firsthand the potential to make local fleets run cleaner in the future.

"Up here we do everything we can to bring new emission-reducing technologies to local schools," said Brad Poiriez, Executive Director of the MDAQMD.

The zero-emission buses get the equivalent of 26 mpg and can go an average of 120 miles before needing to be recharged. Kids can bypass the fumes currently emitted from dated diesel buses as well enjoy a much quieter ride to school.

There are currently 480,000 buses in the United States that, on an annual basis, deliver 26 million kids to school covering more than 260 million miles, according to Matt Essex, sales director for Adomani, the company that makes the drivetrains for the bus. The new buses will potentially continue to replace the estimated 25,000 school buses currently operating in California and help meet Gov. Brown's plan to make the state completely reliant on renewable energy by 2045.

"Over the next five years, these buses are going to be game changers in the industry," said Jason Songer Sr., sales manager for A2Z Bus Sales. Although none are currently operational in the Mojave River Valley or Palo Verde Valley, future grant funds from the MDAQMD are expected to be released that could help local districts partially fund the purchase of electric buses.

For more information on grant opportunities through MDAQMD, contact Grants Specialist Jorge Camacho at 760-245-1661, ext. 2020 or [jcamacho@mdaqmd.ca.gov](mailto:jcamacho@mdaqmd.ca.gov).

MDAQMD is the air pollution control authority and permitting agency for the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and the Palo Verde Valley in Riverside County. It's governed by a board of 13 members representing nine incorporated municipalities and two counties within its boundaries. Visit [www.mdaqmd.ca.gov](http://www.mdaqmd.ca.gov) or follow us on social media @MDAQMD.

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