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CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS USES GRANT TO FUEL PROPANE AUTOGAS PURCHASES

LOWER MAINTENANCE COSTS, REDUCED EMISSIONS BENEFITS DRIVES MAJOR NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT TO PURCHASE PROPANE AUTOGAS SCHOOL BUSES

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools [CMS] is no stranger to the busy schedules that come with a new school year. Racking up nearly 130,000 miles every day to pick up 127,000 students, CMS understands the importance of running an efficient transportation department. In 2019, the district chose to add 28 propane-powered Blue Bird Type C school buses to its fleet. With less downtime and lower maintenance and fuel costs than diesel, propane autogas keeps buses out on routes while providing the school district with savings they could pass on to the classroom. And thanks to a grant from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, there was no additional cost to CMS to upgrade the buses to propane autogas.

CMS is one of more than 930 school districts across the country integrating propane autogas school buses into its fleet. The district made the transition to propane autogas because of the benefits the fuel offers throughout the lifecycle of the buses, including a healthier ride to school for students and the lowest total cost-of-ownership.

EQUIPMENT FLEET PROFILE

28

Propane-powered
Blue Bird Type C
school buses



**“WE LOOK FORWARD TO A LOWER
COST-OF-OWNERSHIP AND ARE
PROUD THAT WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO
CLEANER AIR FOR OUR STUDENTS.”**

ADAM JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS



“SO FAR, WE ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THE BUSES. OUR DRIVERS PREFER THE QUIET PROPANE ENGINE.”

ADAM JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

POWER A FLEET

CMS is one of the largest districts to implement propane autogas into its fleet, **serving 127,000 students and driving 130,000 miles every day.**

DRIVER SATISFACTION

CMS drivers report that they prefer the **quiet operation of the propane autogas engine** compared to noisier diesel engines.

CONVENIENT REFUELING

CMS works with a propane autogas supplier to **conveniently schedule refueling** every other day with a propane delivery truck.

CLEAN

Propane autogas school buses can produce up to **96 percent less nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions** than clean diesel buses.

“WE ARE CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ADVANCE OUR TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT, AND WE ARE EXCITED TO EXPAND OUR FLEET OF PROPANE-POWERED BUSES.”

ADAM JOHNSON

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn about autogas vehicles and the fleets that use them, visit **Propane.com/Buses**.

THE PROPANE EDUCATION & RESEARCH COUNCIL was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of Public Law 104-284, the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on October 11, 1996. The mission of the Propane Education & Research Council is to promote the safe, efficient use of odorized propane gas as a preferred energy source.

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