

Maine Clean School Bus Program

ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES

AN OVERVIEW OF MAINE'S FLEETS


Introduction

From a quieter ride to reduced emissions, electric school buses offer numerous advantages over their gas and diesel counterparts. An electric drivetrain has a fraction of the parts that an internal combustion bus has, leading to reduced maintenance costs and complexity. Electric school buses are much more efficient, cutting operational costs by 50% or more. They are also significantly quieter and cleaner than a diesel or gasoline bus, leading to better working and riding conditions.

Federal and State decisionmakers are championing the benefits of electric school buses. In 2022, the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) launched the Clean School Bus Program, providing up to \$5 billion in funding to schools nationwide to adopt clean transportation technology like electric school buses. Many of the projects listed in this case study were funded through this program. In addition, the State of Maine set standards for the deployment of electric school buses with the passage of LD 1579 in May 2022. The new law sets a goal for 75% of new school bus acquisitions in the state to be zero emissions by 2035. The Maine Department of Education established the Maine Clean School Bus Program to help with this transition.

Schools across Maine are bringing the benefits of electric school buses to the areas they serve. Electric school buses are being adopted in all parts of the state and in many different types and sizes of communities. Schools have taken a variety of technical and funding approaches to projects. These early deployments are leading by example and will help develop best practices and strategies for other schools to follow.

Baileyville



Statistics

Number of buses	2
Make(s)	Lion Electric