

# Electric School Bus Fund

## Press Release Template | 2023

For newsworthy project updates and announcements, consider distributing a press release. Please use suggested messaging in the Communications Toolkit, and don't forget to recognize Oregon DEQ's Clean Fuels Program.

Feel free to personalize however you see fit, and we hope this is a helpful starting point. Please keep the PGE quote as-is but reach out if you have any questions or additional requests.

If you plan to do any local media outreach, please reach out to John Farmer with the PGE Communications team ([john.farmer@pgn.com](mailto:john.farmer@pgn.com) or 503.732.8943) before proceeding so we can ensure we aren't duplicating or overlapping efforts. Thank you!

### **[School district name] awarded funding for new electric school bus through PGE's Electric School Bus Fund**

**[City], Ore. (date)** - In celebration of National Drive Electric Week, **[School district name]** is excited to announce that it was selected by Portland General Electric's 2023 [Electric School Bus Fund](#) to receive funding to purchase an electric school bus, install charging infrastructure and provide technical and training support. School districts were chosen based on their commitments to meet the needs of underserved communities and incorporate the buses more broadly into student education around climate science.

#### **[School district quote]**

The electric school bus program is funded by the sale of [Oregon Clean Fuels Program](#) credits, which PGE aggregates on behalf of residential customers who charge their electric vehicles at home. PGE is covering the incremental cost of the electric school buses (the difference in cost between a standard diesel bus and an electric bus) and the total installation of charging infrastructure. PGE is also providing technical assistance to school districts throughout the process, including site assessments, cost-benefit analysis, vehicle and charger selection support, and driver and mechanic support. In return, participating school districts will work with PGE to share their insights and learnings with other school districts interested in electrifying their bus fleets.

**[Approved quote from Portland General Electric]:** "Portland General Electric is excited to award funds from DEQ's Oregon Clean Fuels Program to support our partners in expanding cleaner transportation systems across the state," said Elyssia Lawrence, senior manager, Product Manager and head of PGE's Transportation Electrification team. "Transportation electrification plays an essential role in accelerating the clean energy transition. It is going to take all of us working together to achieve a cleaner and more equitable future for all Oregonians."

Transportation is the single biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon and a major source of other air pollutants. Benefits of the electric school buses include:

- Cleaner air
  - Electric school buses reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than half [compared to](#) a diesel school bus

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- Electric school buses have zero tailpipe emissions and reduce carbon monoxide emissions, nitrogen oxide emissions and other toxic compounds – which have significant negative health impacts, especially [asthma](#) in children – by more than 80% than a diesel school bus
- Safety and comfort
  - Electric school buses are quiet, reducing noise pollution in neighborhoods
  - Drivers are better able to communicate with students
- Lower cost
  - Electricity is less expensive than diesel, and prices are more stable over time

[School district boilerplate]

**About Portland General Electric Company:** Portland General Electric (NYSE: POR) is a fully integrated energy company that generates, transmits and distributes electricity to over 900,000 customers in 51 cities across the state of Oregon. For more than 130 years, Portland General Electric (PGE) has powered the advancement of society, delivering safe, affordable, reliable and increasingly clean energy. To deliver on its strategy and meet state targets, PGE and its approximately 3,000 employees are committed to partnering with stakeholders to achieve at least an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from power served to customers by 2030 and 100% reduction by 2040. PGE customers set the standard for prioritizing clean energy with the No. 1 voluntary renewable energy program in the country. Additionally, for the fifth year in a row, PGE was recognized by the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index which highlights companies committed to creating a more equal and inclusive workplace. As a reflection of the company's commitment to the community it serves, in 2022, PGE employees, retirees and the PGE Foundation donated nearly \$5.5 million and volunteered more than 18,000 hours with more than 400 nonprofits across Oregon. For more information visit [www.PortlandGeneral.com/news](http://www.PortlandGeneral.com/news).