



THREE ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES DELIVER SAVINGS FOR EVERMAN ISD

In October 2020, Everman Independent School District (ISD) added three new electric school buses to its transportation fleet. The schools were able to reduce the up-front purchase costs through the state's Clean Bus Program aimed at retrofitting and replacing traditional diesel buses. ISD received additional funding support from the Volkswagen settlement funds allocated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as well as Rush Bus Centers. After successful rollout of these first electric buses, the school district is already looking to acquire more to add to its fleet.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **3** electric buses
- **\$2,000** in reduced maintenance
- **\$4,000** annual fuel savings

The energy cost savings from the new Blue Bird buses are expected to add up quickly. Everman ISD will see an average of [\\$4,000](#) in annual fuel savings and [\\$2,000](#) in reduced maintenance annual costs. Factor in lower down time for maintenance as well as fewer replacement parts, and the savings extend even further. In total, the school district can expect a [90% cost savings](#) on fuel and maintenance.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Students spend more than 120 hours commuting to and from school on average each year, and a child riding inside a traditional diesel school bus is exposed to as much as four times the level of toxic diesel emissions than someone riding in a car next to it. Electric school buses reduce children's exposure to harmful diesel emissions, correlating to improved school test scores and reduced asthma-related ER visits.

The buses provide more than just immediate savings — the vehicles double as an investment in resiliency. Capable of storing energy for immediate dispatch, the electric buses also serve as large, mobile batteries that can deploy backup power during emergencies. This presents another option as Texas leaders seek to improve grid resilience following the February 2021 storm outages and poses a huge benefit to the school district whose buildings often serve as emergency command centers during inclement weather.

SUPPORT MORE PROJECTS LIKE THESE

Providing funding for school bus electrification that can leverage additional private investment and supporting increased resilience and access to distributed energy resources for schools through programs like the State Energy Program can bring more projects like this to Texas.