Customize and revise this template/sample news release as you’d like. Highlighted [and bracketed] areas are for you to update or delete. Please include this sentence: [Your district name] is has received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Commerce Electric School Bus Program.

**[your district] receives electric school bus grant.**

**One of five Minnesota districts to receive funding from Commerce’s Electric School Bus Program.**

[XX your district] is deploying electric school buses to benefit our students and community, both now and into the future. The district is one of five school districts across the state that have been awarded grants through the Minnesota Department of Commerce Electric School Bus Program to bring new electric school buses to districts.

[add quote from local school board member or administrator – suggested:] “We are proud to be among the first schools receiving grant funding from the Commerce Electric School Bus program,” said name/title. “Electric school buses are cleaner and healthier for our students and communities, since they don’t have tailpipe emissions. Our teachers are planning lessons related to the buses in [list subjects:] science, technology, engineering, math, and/or other subjects. And our students will gain insight into clean transportation and opportunities in clean transportation careers.”

The Electric School Bus grant provides funding for the district to operate ## electric school buses. The electric buses are expected to be serving students by xx approximate date.

With $13 million in funding from the Minnesota state legislature, the Commerce Electric School Bus program helps districts across the state to accelerate the deployment of electric school buses and encourages schools to use vehicle electrification as a teaching tool that can be integrated into the school’s curriculum.

“Electric buses work in Minnesota, even in the winter,” said name/title. “Electric school buses have been keeping students and drivers warm, safe and on time for several Minnesota winters.”

**Benefits of the Electric School Bus Program**

The Electric School Bus Grant Program provides funding for K-12 school districts and tribal contract schools to put new, clean buses into their fleet. The program offers benefits for schools, students, communities and the state, including:

* A healthier, quieter, and cleaner transportation option to get students to school averaging $84,200 in health and climate savings according to a [Harvard study](https://hsph.harvard.edu/news/electric-school-buses-may-yield-significant-health-and-climate-benefits-cost-savings/). With a battery-powered motor instead of an engine, electric buses don’t emit pollution and are much quieter than a diesel bus.
* Our district can save money on lower operations and maintenance costs for using electric school buses, with a study from the World Resources Institute estimating an average savings of $7,000 per year compared to the cost of operating a diesel bus.
* Students will have opportunities for real-time learning about electric vehicles and careers in the growing clean energy economy.
* Our local economy benefits from investments made in expanding our energy infrastructure.

For more Electric School Bus Grants Program info: [Electric School Buses Grants / Minnesota Department of Commerce – Energy Division](https://mn.gov/commerce/energy/consumer/energy-programs/esb-grant-program.jsp).

For more information about xx School’s Electric School Bus grant, contact xx contact info.

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