

## For Immediate Release

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Pittsburg Unified School District Rolls Out New Electric Transit Style School Bus and Puts Spotlight on Self-Sustained Charging Station

**Tuesday, October 15, 2019** in Pittsburg, CA...Pittsburg, CA. Pittsburg Unified School District's (PUSD) transportation department rolls out a 78 passenger electric transit style school bus. The new electric bus was purchased from A-Z Bus Sales with funds from Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and the <u>California Hybrid Vehicle Incentive Program</u> (HVIP). The new bus has zero emissions, quiet operation, up to 120 miles per charge, 78 passenger capacity, and requires much less maintenance than traditional diesel powered buses. This vehicle is also the district's third electric bus to be added to its fleet, which is made of 14 clean propane powered buses, 3 electric buses, and 6 smaller electric transportation vehicles.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 1:00PM

**WHAT:** Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for new school bus and bus ride

WHERE: PUSD's Site Support Services Center (SSSC), located at 3200

Loveridge Road, Pittsburg. Parking is across the street at

**Stoneman Elementary School.** 

**PHOTO OPP:** Photo and video opportunities are available for this event.

The school district's bus yard also hosts a self-sustained charging station that is generated by windmills and solar panels, reducing the cost of owning electric buses and the amount of greenhouse-gas emissions. Pittsburg Unified School District is currently the only school district in California to have a power charging station of this kind. The chargers and the infrastructure from the electric grid to the charging station was funded through a pilot program with PG&E.

"Pittsburg Unified is extremely proud to be a leader in green solutions for school transportation," said Matt Belasco, Director of Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation, Pittsburg Unified School District. "Not only are our buses sustainable, they also are helping to decrease air pollution in our community. The air around our busses is now cleaner for our students and bus drivers. This new bus will be used to transport our children on field trips, sporting events, and activities"

Due to the district's trailblazer efforts in school transportation industry, neighboring school districts are now following the lead in transitioning to cleaner school transportation options and powering solutions. In the future, Pittsburg Unified plans to add a 4<sup>th</sup> electric bus to its fleet as well as 3 smaller electric buses.

## About Pittsburg Unified School District

Video about PUSD: https://youtu.be/X2xn3HOavfM

Awarded the College Board's Gaston Caperton Opportunity Honor Roll award in 2016 for expanding access to college, <u>Pittsburg Unified School District</u> (PUSD) is one of 130 school districts across the nation recognized for creating opportunities for traditionally underrepresented students. PUSD is a K-12 district serving the community of Pittsburg, California. Founded in 1933, the school system is committed to providing an excellent opportunity for all students to learn. Comprised of eight elementary schools, three junior high schools, one comprehensive high school, one alternative education high school, an adult school, independent study options, and a preschool program, the school district serves more than 11,300 students. PUSD is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, fifty minutes outside of downtown San Francisco.