



News Release

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For Immediate Release

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KUB Communications

Union County Schools Plug in Two Electric School Buses *The fully electric school buses are the first of their kind in KUB's service territory*

Knoxville, TN – Union County Public Schools (UCPS) has introduced the first electric school buses in Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)'s 688-square-mile service territory.

With support from KUB to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure and funding granted through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), this marks a milestone in the school system's efforts to introduce innovative technologies to its students.

"We are always working to ensure Union County students have access to innovative technologies," Greg Clay, Director of Schools at Union County Public Schools, said. "To see those efforts expand beyond the classroom and provide a new, more efficient mode of transportation for our children is truly rewarding."

UCPS was one of 10 Tennessee school systems to be awarded an EPA Clean School Bus Rebate. Each bus holds 71 passengers and has a 135-mile range. The buses will serve students at Paulette Elementary School. Powered solely by electricity, the buses provide a cleaner mode of transportation for students and better air quality for the Union County community.

A member of the East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition and Drive Electric Tennessee, KUB is a long-time advocate of alternative fuel vehicle adoption.

"We are proud to remove barriers to electric vehicle adoption any time we can, and we are especially proud to support the first electric school buses serving our customers," KUB President and CEO Gabriel J. Bolas said. "Supporting our area's students and working toward a greener future are two efforts we take great pride in, so it's great to see them come together in this way."

For more information about KUB's environmental efforts, visit www.kub.org/green.

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KUB provides more than 486,000 customers in Knox and parts of seven surrounding counties with safe and reliable electric, fiber, natural gas, wastewater treatment, and water services.