

Propane school buses are a better choice



Canadian Propane Association
Association canadienne du propane

School districts are switching to cleaner-burning propane buses to provide cleaner air to students and the community while reducing costs to school budgets.

Today, more than 1.3 million children in North America ride to and from school in buses powered by propane.

Savings that go further



Lowest total cost of ownership

Propane buses deliver the lowest total cost-of-ownership available compared to diesel and electric buses. With the savings, schools can afford more teachers, classroom supplies and extracurricular activities.

- Propane buses cost slightly more than diesel buses, but that cost is quickly recouped within two years of operation due to lower fuel and maintenance costs – **up to 50% less.**



Lower purchase cost

New propane buses cost just a third of what electric buses do, enabling districts to buy more vehicles within their budget.



Lower infrastructure costs

Propane refueling stations, independent of the grid and available as public, private, or temporary setups, are much cheaper than installing electric charging stations. It is also significantly easier and less costly to scale up when it's time to grow your fleet with propane.

Recognized for its low environmental impact by Canada's Alternative Fuels Act, auto propane is a cost-effective, lower-emission and globally trusted automotive energy option.



Canadian school bus operators

- Regina Catholic School division, Saskatchewan
- Brandon School Division, Manitoba
- Southland School District, Alberta,
- Hammond Transportation, Ontario
- New Brunswick school districts
- Halifax school district
- School District No. 22, Vernon, British Columbia

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Reliable

Propane buses:

- Allow school districts to run routes without worrying about recharging and range limitations.
- Have a range of over 560 km on a single refill, **three times that of electric buses.**
- Start easily in cold weather without the need for pre-heating, block heaters, or fuel additives. Electric buses, on the other hand, face challenges in cold climates, as their batteries struggle to generate heat efficiently, often requiring diesel-powered heaters to keep warm.

Cleaner

With propane buses, students aren't exposed to the emissions from older diesel buses that can cause health issues. **In real-world testing conducted by West Virginia University in 2018**, auto propane produced 96% fewer NOx emissions compared with clean diesel buses. Using propane buses also reduced up to 98% less particulate matter. Children are more vulnerable to these pollutants because their bodies and immune systems are still developing.

In the unlikely event of a spill, propane harmlessly dissipates into the air whereas diesel can contaminate soil and water resources through spills, leaching, and water runoff.

Safe

Propane buses have built-in features that ensure the safety of passengers, including:

- Tanks that are 20 times more puncture resistant than a typical fuel tank
- A fuel system fitted with safety devices and shut-off valves that function automatically.
- Sourced from an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) – and crash tested.
- Propane engines are 50% quieter than diesel, allowing bus drivers to be more attentive.

Easy

- Propane pumps operate similarly to diesel and gasoline, making it easy for anyone to use and taking a similar amount of time.
- Quick-connect nozzles enable drivers to just click in the nozzle, refuel, and go. The process ensures that propane is only released when securely connected to the tank fitting. As a pressurized fuel, propane remains contained within a sealed system until it enters your vehicle.

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