

THE INSIDE STORY



Allegheny County Diesel School Bus Retrofit Program

In January 2009, Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato urged school bus operators serving Allegheny County school districts, as well as school districts that operate their own buses, to take advantage of available county funding and retrofit their diesel fleets in order to reduce emissions.

There are approximately 2000 diesel school buses operating in Allegheny County, producing nearly 12 tons of particulate matter and 367 tons of hydrocarbons each year. These emissions not only enter the ambient air, but also the internal bus cabins where children ride.

The Allegheny County Diesel School Bus Retrofit Program provides grants from the County's Clean Air Fund to cover 75 percent of retrofit costs. In addition to the County program, the Heinz Endowments and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection have set up the Pittsburgh Healthy School Bus Retrofit Fund to assist with retrofitting school buses serving the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Contact: Kevin Evanto 412-350-3171 kevin.evanto@alleghenycounty.us