

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: February 8, 2005

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION FOR CLEAN BUSES FOR KIDS RETROFIT PROGRAM**

ORIGINATOR: J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Don Dent, Executive Director of Planning and Support Operations

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approve the Resolution for *Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program*.

* * * *

The *Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program* is intended to provide school systems with grant money to retrofit older school buses with particulate filters and operate on ultra low sulfur diesel fuel.

The *Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program* was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States v. Toyota Motor Corporation brought on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act.

RESOLUTION

February 8, 2005

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of the Baltimore County Public Schools (“BCPS”) believes that it is in the best interest of its students to promote the Mission of the school system as outlined in the *Master Plan* by providing all students with an education in school environments that are safe and conducive to learning; and

WHEREAS, American children spend three billion hours on school buses each year with exposure to particulates from diesel engine exhaust being associated with a range of health effects from exacerbation of asthma, bronchitis, and pneumonia symptoms to retarded lung development, and since school buses in BCPS are 100% diesel we can reduce children's exposure to potentially dangerous particulates by retrofitting diesel school buses; and

WHEREAS, The Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States v. Toyota Motor Corporation, brought on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, The Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program provides funds to school districts and other eligible public entities to: purchase and install emission control equipment to reduce diesel particulate emissions from school buses and to offset costs associated with the ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel required by that equipment; and

WHEREAS, BCPS met eligibility requirements, filed an application, and was invited as one of 62 school systems nationwide to participate in the Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the project guidelines, BCPS proposes to retrofit 12 school buses parked at the Rosedale Bus Facility with particulate filters and operate said vehicles with approved ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel if BCPS receives grant funds from Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program; and

WHEREAS, BCPS will submit annual reports to the Program Administrator through September 1, 2009 as required by the Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program guidelines; and

WHEREAS, BCPS plans to ensure that the maintenance staff will acquire the knowledge and training related to implementing the objectives of the Clean Buses for Kids Program; and

WHEREAS, BCPS's grant application is consistent with the *Master Plan*, Goal 4; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Baltimore County Public Schools authorizes the Superintendent to submit a grant application under the Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program in the approximate amount of \$94,200.00 for the purpose of retrofitting 12 BCPS school buses with particulate filters and operating these 12 buses with ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Superintendent of Schools be directed to implement the program if BCPS is awarded funds under the Clean Buses for Kids Retrofit Program.

James R. Sasiadek, President

Joe A. Hairston, Secretary-Treasurer

February 8, 2005