



Grossmont Union High School District

# ENGIE Helps Californian School District Transition to an All-Electric Bus Fleet

About  
Grossmont  
UHSD

The Grossmont Union High School District (GUHSD) serves high schools, adult schools, and Regional Occupational Programs across eastern San Diego County, California. GUHSD is committed to reducing its environmental footprint and has already started to use renewable energy in its schools. Now, GUHSD is upgrading its bus fleet to operate more sustainably, while also improving transportation access to underserved areas of the district.

## Modernizing GUHSD's School Fleet

“As a public school district with multiple competing priorities, GUHSD has limited resources to devote to fleet electrification. ENGIE assisted GUHSD in securing eight of our 17 new electric buses through a grant from the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District and additional funding to develop our comprehensive plan for fleet electrification. These accomplishments work toward our overall goal to support our community's educational and environmental needs.”

– Lindsey Danner, Energy Manager at GUHSD

### A BLUEPRINT FOR ELECTRIFICATION

With its 67-strong school bus fleet and transportation yard in need of repairs and upgrades, GUHSD used the opportunity to begin transitioning to an electric bus fleet – reducing carbon emissions and contributing to better air quality in the process. The district also hopes to reduce the nearly half million dollar budget it spends in diesel each year, while simultaneously expanding its bus service in underserved areas – and all at a time when grants and incentives are moving quickly.

GUHSD partnered with ENGIE to create a 20-year phased fleet modernization blueprint inclusive of funding support, fleet procurement, charging infrastructure deployment, and solar PV energy generation. With Phase 1 of the project now underway, the district is closer than ever to realizing its vision for a clean and efficient electric bus fleet.



## A New Take on School Transportation

ENGIE and GUHSD are co-creating a pioneering approach to wholesale fleet transformation that will drive significant benefits for the district, its pupils, and the wider community. Key program deliverables for Phase 1 of the program include:

- In-depth analysis of GUHSD's fleet and transportation requirements to create an optimal solution
- Detailed 20-year roadmap to transition the district's 67 diesel-fueled school buses to a sustainable, affordable, and resilient electric fleet
- A strategy for securing public sector funding by identifying relevant and high-priority grants
- Procuring 17 electric buses
- Constructing a new bus depot
- Entering a 28-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) that consists of solar PV systems to lower costs with onsite renewable energy, charging stations to power the new fleet, and smart control software for fleet optimization and monitoring

### PUTTING THE FUNDS IN PLACE

At the outset of the project, ENGIE conducted financial analysis to identify and develop responses to federal and state grant solicitations that support fleet electrification efforts. This work resulted in:



**\$4 Million**

in grant funding for Phase 1 electric school buses and energy infrastructure



**8 of 17**

new electric buses purchased through a grant from the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

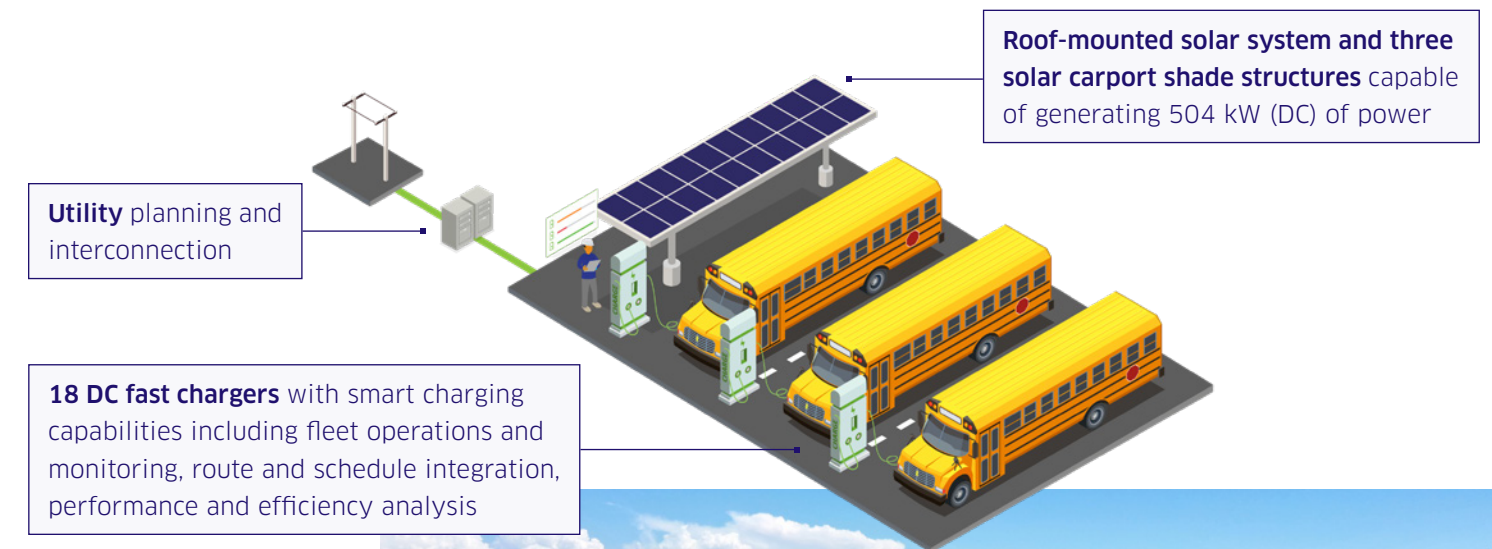


**30% increase**

in Low Carbon Fuel Standard credits from new onsite solar PV systems

### CONSTRUCTING MODERN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Major elements of Phase 1 implementation included the design and build of a new bus depot and supportive energy infrastructure for the district's new fleet. Upgrades included:



Energy infrastructure upgrades at the bus depot will be completed by Fall 2022 ▶

## Three Dimensions of Impact

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The electrification of GUHSD's school bus fleet will reduce total greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 86%, improving overall air quality in the surrounding community.

### SAVING MONEY

The district will save money by replacing expensive diesel fuel with electricity generated onsite, as well as through the use of smart charging stations. Further savings have been achieved by the district's smart approach to funding the project.

### SUPPORTING PEOPLE

The program will reduce students' exposure to harmful pollutants, support the expansion of bus services in underserved areas, and offer opportunities for meaningful community-learning and workforce development.

## About ENGIE North America

As a power generator, energy services company, and retail electricity supplier, ENGIE North America is the only company that delivers comprehensive, integrated services across the entire energy value chain. This makes ENGIE a preferred provider to K-12 school districts, universities, cities, healthcare providers, and other social infrastructure entities. ENGIE's business strategy focuses on delivering safe, reliable, cost-effective, and sustainable energy solutions that meet customer needs over the long term and contribute to a carbon-neutral economy.

