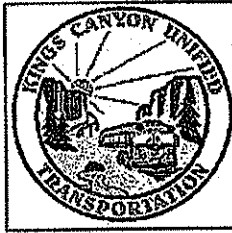


John Clements
08-11-3+4



December 12, 2008

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Board

RE: School Bus Clean Air Rules

Kings Canyon Unified School District operates 67 school buses over a 600 Sq. Mile Region of the Central Valley and neighboring Mountain Communities. Daily our school district serves 20 school sites and transports 1/3 of our 9,000 students of which 70% come from impoverished homes.

Kings Canyon Unified is pleased to be the recipient in the near future of four new school buses to replace our remaining Pre-1977 buses still in use. We are waiting for funding and will go to bid to retrofit twelve late model school buses with DPFs.

Kings Canyon Unified may not be able to participate in on going funding of Post 1977 - 1986 model school buses given the current economic condition of our state and the uncertainty of the proposed education cutbacks. Many school districts may have difficulty attaining the \$25,000 match requirement on these school buses. Please consider funding all replacement diesel school buses to \$140,000 and CNG/Hybrid Electric Alternative fueled buses to \$180,000.

Under the proposed ruling before you today Kings Canyon Unified would potentially need to replace 30 school buses by 2018. Under the current state of our educational funding this does not appear to be an option unless there is full mandated funding or additional bond or grant funds for bus replacement available.

I apologize for being unable to address you in person, but we are in a district initiated travel and budget freeze pending mid-year fiscal decisions made at the Capitol.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Clements", is written over a horizontal line.

John D. Clements
Director of Transportation

Cc: Ron Hudson - Deputy Superintendant