

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JCPS Buses to use Biodiesel

Beginning December 1, 2006, all 1,056 school buses operating in the Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) bus fleet will utilize Biodiesel in their fuel tanks. On November 13, 2006, the Jefferson County Board of Education approved a new transportation fuel contract, which will see a two percent blend of the renewable fuel in every gallon. Biodiesel, a renewable fuel produced from vegetable oil or animal fat, is biodegradable and non-toxic. JCPS uses over 2.5 million gallons of fuel annually and transports the 19th largest student population in the nation.

"This new fueling combination is evidence of our district's commitment to environmental conservation," said Dr. Stephen Daeschner, superintendent. "As a result of using Biodiesel, we expect to significantly reduce exhaust emissions from our bus fleet, which travels more than 85,000 miles daily throughout the community."

The Biodiesel market has seen significant growth across the nation and Kentucky over the last year and a half. A 50 million gallon Biodiesel production facility is under construction in Owensboro, Kentucky, and Marathon Petroleum will complete the construction of a blending facility at their Louisville, Kentucky, fuel terminal by mid-December.

Melissa Howell, executive director of the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition, a non-profit organization that assists in coordination of projects like these, says "JCPS has taken a tremendous step forward—not only for the health of our students, but the health of our economy—by using a fuel that we produce right here in the Commonwealth. We are proud that they are members of our coalition."

For more information, contact Mike Mulheirn, executive director, JCPS Facilities and Transportation, at (502) 485-3178 or Melissa Howell, Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition, at (502) 452-9152.

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