

For Immediate Release: May 27, 2021

<u>Contact</u>: Jerome Hand (334) 260-4545

## ADEM Partners with Clay County Board of Education to Reduce Diesel Emissions

**MONTGOMERY** - The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is partnering with the Clay County Board of Education in Ashland, to reduce diesel emissions through a school bus replacement project. The project will use funding under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA).

While new school buses must meet tougher emission standards from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, many older school buses continue to emit harmful diesel exhaust. Diesel exhaust from older buses has a negative impact on human health, especially for children, who have a faster breathing rate than adults and whose lungs are not yet fully developed.

The Clay County Board of Education will replace six of these older buses with new, cleaner diesel school buses.

ADEM, utilizing its 2020 DERA funding, has awarded the Clay County Board of Education \$129,899 to assist in the purchase of these new, cleaner school buses. The project is scheduled for completion by August 31.

###