



BELMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1101 MAIN STREET, BELMAR, NEW JERSEY 07719

www.belmar.k12.nj.us



Mr. Jimmy Alvarez
Superintendent

732-681-8888

Mr. Michael Bardsley, CPA
Business Administrator
Board Secretary

732-681-8888

Mrs. Sarah Wilton
Principal

732-681-2388

Mrs. Lauren Vasile
Director of PreSchool /
Supervisor of Special Services

732-681-2388

March, 19, 2024

To whom it may concern:

The Belmar Elementary School District is pleased to provide this letter in support of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Implementation Program. We strongly support this grant application and look forward to helping DEP accelerate the reduction in carbon emissions in New Jersey by funding the adoption of electric vehicles through an innovative school bus and site microgrid project.

Belmar Elementary is dedicated to supporting the creation of a more environmentally sustainable community and improving the quality of life for community members, students, and families who are disproportionately affected by air emissions. Emissions from the transportation sector are the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in New Jersey, contributing to climate change through higher temperatures, sea level rise, and more frequent extreme weather events. As a shore community, we are committed to reducing these very real negative effects on our citizens and neighborhoods. By participating in this program, we would be able to provide access to zero-emission vehicles to students while providing additional resiliency. Belmar Elementary would be a proud partner in helping to accelerate technology adoption for all districts. Providing clean and equable transportation to students is necessary for any school district and this grant program provides a pathway for our school district to offer such services.

We understand that, if awarded, DEP seeks to assist us with procuring electric school buses, bi-directional charging infrastructure, renewable power generation, and a storage system, which may be connected through a site-wide microgrid. With a successful partnership, DEP and the Belmar Elementary School District will ensure compliance with the standards and requirements of EPA.

We appreciate the opportunity to support New Jersey in electrifying the school bus system and will continue to work with the DEP and other stakeholders to find a more sustainable path for student transportation.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Alvarez

Superintendent of Belmar Elementary School District