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News Release

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Shawnee Public Schools and North Rock Creek Public School Recognized for Reducing Diesel Emissions

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announced today that Shawnee Public Schools and North Rock Creek Public School will be recognized during ceremonies for reducing diesel emissions and improving the state's air quality. Ceremony information is as follows:

Shawnee Public Schools - The ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m., March 11, 2011. The event will take place at the Administration Building, 326 N. Union, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

North Rock Creek Public School - The ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m., March 11, 2011. The event will take place at the North Rock Creek Elementary School, 42400 Garretts Lake Road, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Both schools participated in the Oklahoma Clean Diesel Program. Through this program, Shawnee Public Schools used approximately \$159,934 in grant funds to replace four older model diesel school busses with new 2010 emission standard busses. North Rock Creek Public School used approximately \$40,000 in grant funds to replace one older model diesel school bus with a new 2010 emission standard bus.

In addition, the Oklahoma Clean Diesel Grant Program required these schools to implement a policy that limits the amount of time a school bus idles. Unnecessary vehicle idling pollutes the air, wastes fuel, and causes excess engine wear.

More information on the Oklahoma Clean Diesel Grant Program is available at <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/aqdnew/cleandiesel/index.html>.

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