

BORGWARNER

The School District of the City of Pontiac Leverages Sequential Charging to DCFC Performance and EPA Funding

July 2023



An in-depth program perspective from Kelley Williams, The School District of the City of Pontiac Superintendent

The School District of the City of Pontiac partnered with BorgWarner to provide proprietary sequential charging with its direct current fast chargers (DCFC) for the district's fleet of 25 IC electric school buses. The infrastructure development is the first for BorgWarner that takes advantage of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean School Bus Program electrification funding. The School District of the City of Pontiac met the EPA requirements as a prioritized community and received \$20,000 per power dispenser, totaling \$500,000 in funding for electric vehicle supply equipment hardware and installation costs, as well as \$9,375,000 for the electric buses themselves. Additional funding for infrastructure is being provided by DTE Energy's eFleet Charger Rebate program.

"We currently have about 50 buses supporting the district, running approximately 44 routes daily. We are transitioning 25 of those to electric buses over the coming months using the EPA funds, and additional funding from DTE to build out the electric infrastructure to support those buses. We will actively participate in the next rounds of EPA Clean School Bus grants to transition the majority of the fleet in the near future," said Kelley Williams, Superintendent School District of the City of Pontiac. "Additionally, the district has added a couple of electric passenger vans and just submitted an order for two electric cargo vans. We have eight publicly accessible electric vehicle charging stations located throughout the district as well." BorgWarner announced a program win to provide 60kW and 125kW DCFCs to The School District of the City of Pontiac in support of their 25 electric IC school buses.

EPA Clean School Bus Program

"Without the EPA Clean School Bus program, Pontiac Schools would not have been able to take such a large step into electrifying our bus fleet," said Mrs. Williams. "We are honored to have been chosen as the largest recipient of this grant in Michigan, and the only district in Oakland County. This will be a game changer for our fleet and ability to transport our students."



Sequential Charging Technology Maximizes EPA Per-Port Funding

The deployment includes BorgWarner's 60kW and 125kW DCFCs and solidifies The School District of the City of Pontiac as the first school district to leverage BorgWarner's proprietary sequential charging technology, which allows up to five dispensers to charge from a single public charging station (PCS). Installing multiple dispensers per power control system greatly reduces the initial investment and lowers installation costs while providing the ability to charge at DCFC levels.

Managed by First Student

The School District of the City of Pontiac has a contract with First Student, a turnkey student transportation provider that handles all operational logistics from driving and charging to maintenance. First Student is also known for advancing market innovations and currently has two vehicle-to-grid (V2G) pilots. "The School District of the City of Pontiac transitioned to First Student as our transportation partner for the 2022-2023 school year," explained Mrs. Williams. "Our experience has been fantastic, and we are appreciative of their knowledge and experience in electric buses and operations."

Michigan-Made Chargers

"The School District of the City of Pontiac selected BorgWarner DC Fast Chargers because they are manufactured locally in Michigan, and they are an eligible vendor for the district to receive funding from DTE's eFleet Charger Rebate program," explained Mrs. Williams. "BorgWarner DC Fast Chargers align with the district's vision to implement V2G in the near future."

Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) Program-Ready

The BorgWarner EV chargers selected for the program are the only UL1741SA-certified DCFC solution on the market, making them vehicle-to-grid (V2G) ready and upgradeable for bidirectional applications. With the V2G capabilities of BorgWarner's charging technology, future programs with the school district could include sending energy from bus batteries back to utilities or buildings during times of peak demand, supporting the power grid and enabling revenue-making opportunities. The district expects to participate in a vehicle-to-grid (V2G) program as soon as the utility company's infrastructure in our location is ready to accept excess energy back to the grid. We are very excited to engage with that technology and capabilities.

"The School District of the City of Pontiac currently serves approximately 4,000 students from Pre-K through 12th grade. The school bus electrification program will impact students district wide, as the new buses will support numerous routes throughout our servicing area," said Mrs. Williams. "Being able to provide a better transportation experience to our students is paramount in our mission. By creating zero emissions, reducing the noise level of the bus, and providing a comfortable ride, our students should arrive at school happier and healthier, ready to engage in the learning environment.



About Mrs. Kelley Williams, Superintendent of Pontiac School District

Mrs. Williams was selected by the Pontiac Board of Education as Superintendent in May 2013. Prior to that she was the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction (since 2010); elementary curriculum supervisor (2008-2010); principal at Longfellow Elementary (2004-2007); assistant principal at Lincoln Middle School (2002 to 2004); and elementary teacher at Mark Twain Elementary (1995 to 2001).

Mrs. Williams received her Master's in Curriculum, Instruction and Leadership at Oakland University and her Michigan Administrative Certification in 2009.

The passion Mrs. Kelley Williams has for improving education for all children is rooted in her own childhood experience when her teacher and parents inspired her to pursue a college degree in Early Childhood Education at Clark Atlanta University. Early in her career, Mrs. Williams began teaching at the elementary and middle school levels in Pontiac School District. Her dedication to students and her peers led her to administrative roles within Pontiac School District – first as principal, then as the curriculum supervisor, assistant superintendent and most-recently as superintendent. Always committed to improving learning, providing inspiration and making a positive difference in students' lives has been her mantra.



Mrs. Williams believes in a child-first improvement approach by increasing efficiency and performance, eliminating ineffective programs and making focused decisions. Her ability to motivate educators to grow in skills, collaborate with her team and Board members exhibits the visionary leadership she has demonstrated in her years serving in the Pontiac School District. She is focused and driven to continue to improve the Pontiac School District to ensure academic success for all students.

About The School District of the City of Pontiac

For more information about The School District of the City of Pontiac, contact Heidi Hedquist, (248) 535-7419, heidi.hedquist@pontiacschools.org.

About BorgWarner

For more than 130 years, BorgWarner has been a transformative global product leader bringing successful mobility innovation to market. Today, we're accelerating the world's transition to eMobility – to help build a cleaner, healthier, safer future for all.

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