



# Press Release

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Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## School Lines To Provide First Blue Bird Electric School Bus in Connecticut



North Branford CT- School Lines Inc. today announced the sale of a 71-passenger Blue Bird Electric Vision school bus to Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) in North Haven, CT. This purchase will put the first full size electric powered school bus on the roads of the Constitution State, one of over 400 such Blue Bird zero emission vehicles on the road or in production.

With this new bus added to their fleet of about two dozen school buses, ACES will be contributing to cleaner air for the New Haven County region and the entire state of Connecticut, a goal of the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program. “We are proud to see the School Lines tradition of providing cutting edge technology take its next logical step with electric school buses in our communities,” said Sean Finnerty, School Lines’ Executive Vice President.

The Vision EV boasts a range of up to 120 miles, powered by the Cummins Power Drive 7000 propulsion system utilizing the TM4 SUMO 315 peak Horsepower motor. A 155 Kilowatt-hour Lithium ion 14-battery array, safely tucked between the vehicle’s 100,000 psi steel frame rails, acts as the power plant, and the system can be recharged using either Level 2 AC or Level 3 DC fast charge technology.

Blue Bird has been long recognized as the leading school bus manufacturer in the United States, dating back to 1927. School Lines has proudly represented this school transportation stalwart since 1966.

### ***About School Lines:***

School Lines Connecticut offers the complete line of Blue Bird and Micro Bird by Girardin school and commercial buses along with a comprehensive parts and service center located in North Branford, CT. School Lines is a recognized leader in CT for its sales and support of Alternative Fueled products. To find out how School Lines Connecticut can assist you with your transportation needs, please call 203-488-1382, or visit us at [www.schoolinesct.com](http://www.schoolinesct.com).

### ***About Girardin:***

Celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, The Girardin Family of Businesses, through its wholly owned subsidiaries A. Girardin Inc., Girardin Ontario Inc., New York Bus Sales and School Lines Connecticut Inc., is the Market Leading Blue Bird and Micro Bird dealer for the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, Upstate New York, and Connecticut. Girardin has been a Blue Bird Dealer for over 50 years and is a Joint Venture partner with Blue Bird in Micro Bird Corporation which builds all Micro Bird by Girardin minibuses. Girardin is a Third Generation Family Business heavily invested and specialized in the school bus and commercial bus industry with investments and operations in Canada and the United States. For more information on Girardin, please visit: [www.girardinbluebird.com](http://www.girardinbluebird.com)

### ***About Blue Bird Corporation:***

Celebrating its 94<sup>th</sup> year in business, Blue Bird (Nasdaq: BLBD) is the leading independent designer and manufacturer of school buses, with more than 550,000 buses sold since its formation in 1927 and approximately 180,000 buses in operation today. Blue Bird's longevity and reputation in the school bus industry have made it an iconic American brand. Blue Bird distinguishes itself from its principal competitors by its singular focus on the design, engineering, manufacture and sale of school buses and related parts. As the only manufacturer of chassis and body production specifically designed for school bus applications, Blue Bird is recognized as an industry leader for school bus innovation, safety, product quality/reliability/durability, operating costs, and drivability. In addition, Blue Bird is the market leader in alternative fuel applications with its propane-powered and compressed natural gas-powered school buses. Blue Bird manufactures school buses at two facilities in Fort Valley, Georgia. Its Micro Bird joint venture operates a manufacturing facility in Drummondville, Quebec, Canada. Service and after-market parts are distributed from Blue Bird's parts distribution center located in Delaware, Ohio. For more information on Blue Bird's complete line of buses, visit [www.blue-bird.com](http://www.blue-bird.com)