

WALKING SCHOOLBUS



WHAT IS A WALKING SCHOOL BUS? A group of children walking to school with one or more adults

Step 1 Congratulations!

- You have started the first step of wanting to make this activity happen at your student's school. Now just focus on the prize of a successful Walking School Bus, and follow these easy steps!



Step 2 Form your team

- School staff contact (principal or school counselor)
- PTO/PTA representative
- Other parent volunteers
- Form your team



Discuss Ideas

- Frequency (daily/weekly/monthly)
- Morning/Afternoon/or Both
- Start Time/End Time
- Reward System (ex. stamps)

Step 3 Roles and Tasks

- Coordinate with a school representative for signs and announcements of WSB
- Scope out the planned route(s) for ADA accessibility, uneven sidewalks, and unsafe conditions
- Guides for the WSB itself
- Manage social media accounts



- Main contacts for questions
- Store a materials box for the activity (markers, orange vests, stickers, rope)
- Make flyers to advertise with students and parents
- Recruit parent volunteers
- Calls to remind parent volunteers
- Makes posters and/or signs



Step 4 Plan the Route

- Print Google map of school and nearby area
- # of routes planned
- Locate direction students walk/bike from
- Do a run-through of the routes to check for safety concerns
- Identify pick-up spots
- Time your route and consider school schedule
- **MAKE A MAP & CHECK IT!**



Step 5 Announce WSB

- Morning announcement
- Flyers to families
- In-class presentations
- 1-week before a WSB
- Marquee sign
- Calls from principal
- **Recruit parent/guardian volunteers** @ PTO/PTA meetings, Coffee w/ principal, Social media, or Peach Jar



Step 6 Celebrate Every WSB!

- Leaders arrive 15 mins before start of event
- Have 1 or 2 coordinators helping other volunteers
- Wear an orange reflective vest Implement reward system
- Smile and thank all volunteers
- Have fun and celebrate your hard work!



TIPS

Do a 5-minute reflection with volunteers on how to improve after a WSB. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, & water for warm days. Encourage the students for their success in participating. Respect and thank all volunteers.

