

Active Transportation

Administrative Procedure

Topic:	Active Transportation
Status:	Active
Effective:	September 2014
Revision Date:	January 2024
Review Date:	January 2028
Responsibility:	Director of Education

Intended Purpose

The Halton District School Board promotes the use of Active Transportation for daily trips to and from school. By choosing active transportation modes and /or school buses/public transit, students experience benefits in mental and physical health and well-being and improved safety for all members of the school community.

The Halton District School Board will:

- Support and encourage Active Transportation programs in schools across the Board.
- Encourage the use of the [Active and Safe Routes to School Matrix](#)
- Improve end of trip facilities (e.g., equipment storage and/or bicycle racks) to support Active Transportation
- Promote regional and international Walk to School day events and other initiatives encouraging Active Transportation throughout the year.
- Consider Active Transportation corridors in facility / planning decisions.
- Advocate for safety enhancements including establishing safe Active Transportation corridors for travel to school and the workplace.
- Encourage collaboration of schools, communities and government agencies to increase safety in the school community.

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Procedure

Schools can choose from initiatives that support Active Transportation.

1. **Walking Wednesdays:** One day a week is set aside as the day to walk to school.
2. **iWalk** (International Walk to School Week and Day): An annual event held during the first week of October when schools and their surrounding communities have the opportunity to learn about the positive benefits of using Active Transportation (walking/wheeling) for the trip to/from school.
3. **Walk a Block:** A drop off zone is set-up a block (or more) away from the school to encourage walking. This also helps to decrease traffic congestion at the school grounds.
4. **Walkabout:** A community group including the police, school staff, parents, public health nurse, and appropriate municipal/city employees conduct a tour of the school area looking for safe routes and appropriate infrastructure to support the walk to school.
5. **No Idling at School:** Initiatives are adopted to reduce idling of motor vehicles on/around school property.
6. **Walking School Bus:** Parent volunteers walking a route, picking up children along the way and taking them to school.

Planning and promoting Active Transportation:

Walk to School Routes / Walking School Buses

1. Obtain 1.6 km scatter map (Planning Department) which identifies clusters of walking students or use the [Walk and Wheel Map](#) on the website.
2. Plan and implement a walkabout of the proposed routes to assess safety and infrastructure. Possible community stakeholders participants are: Halton Regional Police Service, municipal traffic engineers, interested parents; students, school administrator, teacher and political leaders. Walkabouts may

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occur with the absence of Halton Regional Police Service, but should not take place without the appropriate municipal Traffic Engineer's presence.

3. Complete the walkabout checklist with recommendations generated from the walkabout assessment and distribute to participants ([Walkabout Checklist](#))
4. Follow-up for completion of the walkabout recommendations
5. Inform the school community of the Active Transportation initiatives.

Bike Trains

Active transport to school can also be in the form of bike trains. This is a group of bikers making their way along a pre-designated route to the school.

Walk a Block

1. Coordinate with the municipal Traffic Department to identify a walk-a-block location
2. Inform school community of walk-a-block location

Walking Wednesdays, iWalk and No Idling Campaign

These initiatives support the aforementioned activities.

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Reference number: Pending

Cross-Reference:

Legislation

N/A

Ministry Policy & Program Memoranda

N/A

Board Policies, Procedures & Protocols

Climate Emergency Declaration

Sustainability - Education and Environment Policy

Revision History

Style template updated January 2024 (Administrative Procedure Update Report 24010); prior revision history not recorded.