

DRIVING TO SCHOOL? Please note our School is now **IDLE FREE FOR THE KIDS!** PLEASE TURN OFF ENGINES IF PARKED NEAR THE SCHOOL.

WHY NOT IDLE?

- Car exhaust contains **air toxics**, which are known to cause cancer, respiratory effects, reproductive effects, birth defects or other serious health effects.
- *Idling your engine for just 1 minute produces as much carbon dioxide as smoking 3 packs of cigarettes. Always consider what comes out of the tailpipe!*
- Because of their developing lungs and higher breathing rates, **children are more susceptible** to air pollution and the damage to lungs it can cause.
- If many vehicles are idling at once, for example in **school pick up/drop off areas**, “hot spot” of excessive exhaust pollution can be created.
- Studies and monitoring at schools have shown **elevated levels of air toxics** during the afternoon hour coinciding with parents picking up their children.



IDLING FACTS

- Idling pollutes the air outside and inside your vehicle. The chemicals from exhaust are harmful and can make **asthma** worse.
 - *Most people waste \$200-300 gas every year by idling. Save \$ and the planet!*
 - Ford Motor Company says: “Avoid idling more than 30 seconds because excessive idling can actually **damage your engine**.”
 - *Idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.*
 - Manufacturers assure that frequent restarting won't harm an engine.
 - Reducing idling at schools can also reduce children's exposure to toxic vehicle exhaust.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

WALK TO SCHOOL to help give children the recommended 60 minutes of exercise a day!

IF YOU DRIVE...

And are going to wait more than 10 seconds, turn your vehicle off.

PLEDGE TO NOT IDLE UNNECESSARILY ANYPLACE, ANYTIME.

It's as simple as that.

Join school bus drivers, parents, teachers, students and others who are turning off their engines whenever they are parked for more than 10 seconds. Ask your friends, family, co-workers and neighbours to do the same by showing common courtesy to others by turning it off. It's common sense and a common courtesy to others.

TURN THE KEY, BE IDLE FREE!!

There are over 500 other reasons why you shouldn't idle near our school. Our students and staff are some of them.