

# Some Keys to Reducing Traffic in the Carpool Lane



**Educating Parents** about your carpool line procedures is one of the most important steps to a safe and efficient carpool lane. Educate regularly through website, texts, postcards, individual and group conversations.



**Develop a School Carpool Lane Procedures Guide** including a map of your School's carpool lane layout to help parents know and understand the process. Remember to include our "Air Quality Facts" printable for parents on

the importance of reduced idling time and remind parents to turn off their engine while they wait.



**Develop Staggered-Time Groups** to help with dismissal and congestion in the community. Review any metrics the School has that will be helpful in creating the groups.



**Consider Creating a Carpool Express Lane** for parents who are carpooling with other families, creating Short-Term Parking spaces, or the use of orange cones for good visual direction.

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**Design eye capturing carpool removable stickers** to identify moving through the lane.



**Post your School's Carpool Lane Visual** and procedure guidelines on your School's website and in your parent handbook. Have it handy and ready for distribution

on Open House nights, front office and classroom if appropriate.



**Hold a Carpool Session during your Back to School Night/Week or Open House** at the start of each School year or when any major changes occur to inform

parents of CarpooltoSchool works and your School's procedures for the carpool lane.

*Reminder about idling. Have the children wait quietly and organized inside the School until their car arrives to protect them from car emissions. Print out or "Air Quality Facts" sheet to share with parents.*



## Air Quality Facts

- 1 Vehicle exhaust is loaded with fine particles that penetrate deep into the lungs and inflame the respiratory system, especially in children and people with asthma.
- 2 Children are sensitive because they take in more air per pound of body weight than adults and their lungs are still developing.
- 3 For each hour spent idling, a typical car wastes 1/5 gallon of gasoline. Idling for 10 seconds uses more fuel than turning off the engine and restarting it.
- 4 An idling vehicle emits 20 times more pollution than one traveling at 30 miles per hour.

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