

**CHAPTER FOUR: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL &  
SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

# CHAPTER 4: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL & SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

## GENERAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Town of Grand Chute SRTS task force has devised a number of recommendations for their program. The task force is committed to implementing these recommendations and the recommendations can be found in Figure #.

### Education

There are a number of educational programs that the Grand Chute Area SRTS Task Force would like to incorporate into their SRTS Programs.

#### Task Force - Preferred Ideas

1. Bike Rodeo/Safety Course
2. Assemblies/Guest Speakers
3. Classroom Activities (i.e. Bike safety in P.E. class; Art Class - Poster Contest)
4. Pace Car Program/Parent Pledge Program

#### **1. Bike Rodeo/Safety Course**

- Organizer: School Administration and Police Department
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:



A Bike Rodeo is usually a bicycle safety clinic featuring bike safety inspections (and optionally quick tune-ups), and a safety lecture about the rules of the road (10 to 15 minutes).

#### **2. Assemblies/Guest Speakers**

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost:



Guest speakers can address bicycle and pedestrian safety. This could happen as part of a field day, a special assembly or even in lieu of a class trip.

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## 3. Classroom Activities (i.e. Bike safety in P.E. class; Art Class - Poster Contest)

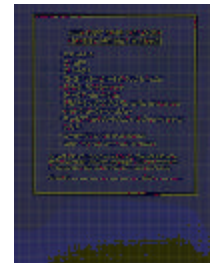
- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:



Bike safety taught in Physical Education class, or the art class could have a poster contest on bike safety or pedestrian safety.

## 4. Pace Car Program/Parent Pledge Program

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:



Pace car participants or Parents sign a pledge agreeing to keep their children safe in and around school zones. Parents agree to the following: slow down, be alert, be patient, review and know their school rules, cross at cross walks, stay off cell phones, etc.

## Other Ideas

1. Media Campaign
2. Walk or Bike Across America
3. Walking Math
4. Pedestrian Fair/Community Fair

### 1. Media Campaign

- Organizer: SRTS Committee
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

A media campaign could be completed by the SRTS task force by including signage reminding drivers to slow down in school zones. Also public service announcements could be developed and aired over the radio to remind the community the importance of pedestrian awareness and school zones. The committee could use local colleges to assist in the development of media campaign materials.



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## 2. Walk or Bike Across America

- Organizer: School Administration and teachers
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost: \$0

Walk or Bike Across America involved students to keep track of the miles they accumulate when they walk or bike to school. This may be combined with a geography class and students "travel" to a particular destination and learn about it.



## 3. Walking Math

- Organizer: School Administration and teachers
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost: \$0

Walking Math offers lesson plans that link math with walking. For example, students can calculate gas mileage, auto emissions, and compare the miles per gallon (MPG) for different vehicles.



## 4. Pedestrian Fair/Community Fair

- Organizer: SRTS Committee
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

Pedestrian safety fair that will involve the community with opportunities for skills practicing, crossing at crosswalks, rules for the road for walking and biking in the village, crossing the bridge, personal safety and promotion the designated safe routes. This will involve parents so they can reinforce safety guidelines.



### Encouragement

As mentioned previously, the task force deems that it is important to have encouragement programs to supplement the education programs.

### Task Force Preferred Ideas

1. Walking Wednesdays/Tuesday Truckers
2. Walking School Bus Program or Cycle Train
3. Recess Rovars/Moving Miles
4. Pollution Punch Card Contest

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## 1. Walking Wednesdays/Tuesday Truckers

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

These walking or biking days can be weekly or monthly, complete with themes to encourage students to bike or walk to school.

## 2. Walking School Bus Program or Cycle Train

- Organizer: PTA and/or other parent group
- Level of Effort: High
- Cost:

The Walking School Bus (WSB) is a group of children walked to school by a designated parents or adult. The Cycle trail is basically the bicycle version of the WSB. Several adult leaders would arrange to lead the WSB or Cycle Trail on different days. The children would meet the WSB or Cycle Trail at designated stops at designated times.



## 3. Recess Rovars/Moving Miles

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

For Recess Rovars, students who would ride the bus would be able to walk a marked route on the playground to redeem punches for their frequent walker card. The Moving Miles program would allow teachers take a break from teaching in the morning and walk with the students around the block.



## 4. Pollution Punch Card Contest

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

The Pollution Punch card contest rewards students when they choose green modes of travel – walking, biking, and can include carpooling and bus or transit.



## Other Ideas

1. Frequent Walker Card/Frequent Rider Miles
2. Golden Sneaker Award
3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Quiz Show

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## 1. Frequent Walker Card/Frequent Rider Miles

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost: \$0



Students are given cards that get punched every time they walk or bike to school. Once their card is full they will receive a toe token or reward for their efforts.

## 2. Golden Sneaker Award

- Organizer: School administration and teachers
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:



The Golden Sneaker Award contest is a challenge between homeroom classes that rewards the class with the greatest number of students who walk, bike, carpool or ride the bus to school in a given month.

## 3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Quiz Show

- Organizer: School administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:



Based on the television quiz show, Jeopardy, this activity involved students playing a game in order to learn about pedestrian and bicycle safety.

## Enforcement

### Task Force Preferred Ideas

1. School Zone Campaign
2. Law Enforcement Presence
3. Speed Trailers

#### 1. School Zone Campaign

- Organizer: Police Department
- Level of Effort: Medium
- **Cost:**

The School Zone Campaign is using the progressive approach to reduce speeders within school zones. The first week volunteers, parents and students, are outside of the school holding banners to remind drivers to slow down in school zones; the second week parent volunteers use radar guns to track drivers who are speeding in school zones and they receive a letter in the mail; the third week a law enforcement officer, if available, write citations to drivers speeding in school zones.



#### 2. Law Enforcement Presence

- Organizer: Police Department
- Level of Effort: Low
- **Cost:**

Increasing the presence of law enforcement at or around the school when children are present during dismissal and the start of school. Some communities law enforcement officers have been on foot or on bike which has proven to be very effective. There may be an opportunity to partner with Fox Valley Technical College Law Enforcement Program and allow some of the law enforcement students to provide a presence around the schools.



#### 3. Speed Trailers

- Organizer: Police Department
- Level of Effort: Low
- **Cost:**

These can be parked at or near schools to show passing motorists the speed at which they are traveling.



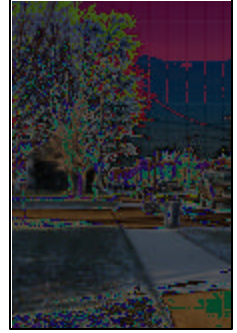
**Other Ideas**

1. Sidewalk, Building, and Property Maintenance Laws
2. Neighborhood Watch Programs
3. Corner Captains

**1. Sidewalk, Building, and Property Maintenance Laws**

- Organizer: Town Administration and Police Department
- Level of Effort: High
- **Cost:**

Sidewalk, building and property maintenance laws that support a safer, friendlier walking environment (i.e. cleared sidewalks after snow fall or overgrown vegetation) must be in forced.



**2. Neighborhood Watch Programs**

- Organizer: Police Department
- Level of Effort:
- **Cost:**

Residents volunteer their homes as "safehouses" where kids can go if they feel threatened or endangered on the way to or from school.

**3. Corner Captains**

- Organizer: Police Department
- Level of Effort:
- **Cost:**

Parents or adult volunteers that station themselves at corners along a walking route. They can be given walkie talkie or cell phones to report unusual behavior.



**Engineering**

School specific engineering recommendations can be found in the next section. General engineering recommendations made by the Town of Grand Chute SRTS Task Force are listed below.

**Task Force Preferred Ideas**

1. Sidewalk Ordinance
2. High Visibility Crosswalks
3. Traffic Calming Measures

**1. Sidewalk Ordinance**

- Organizer: Town Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

When urbanizing a roadway section, sidewalk facilities would also be constructed.



**2. High Visibility Crosswalks**

- Organizer: Town Administration
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost:

High visibility crosswalks should be used to improve safety and to emphasize the recommended path for crossing an intersection. They are at least 10' wide and "ladder" style.



**3. Traffic Calming Measures**

- Organizer: Town Administration
- Level of Effort:
- Cost:

Include traffic calming measures when reconstructing roadways near schools or on routes that students use to walk or bike to school.



**Other Ideas**

1. Complete Streets Ordinance
2. Sidewalk Stencils

**1. Complete Streets Ordinance**

- Organizer: Town Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

COMPLETE STREETS are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street.



## 2. Sidewalk Stencils

- Organizer: Town Administration and School Administration
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost:



Families who live along identified school routes will see a visual reminder that the sidewalk in front of their home is part of a route and it would encourage students to walk to school along the designated routes.

## Evaluation

### Task Force Preferred Ideas

1. Parent Surveys
2. Student Surveys
3. Geography Class
4. Bike and Walk Audits

#### 1. *Parent Surveys*

- Organizer: School Administration and SRTS Committee
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost: \$0

Continue to address issues that parents have regarding allowing their child(ren) to walk or bike to and from school. Have one of the math classes do the statistical analysis on the surveys.

#### 2. *Student Surveys*

- Organizer: School Administration and SRTS Committee
- Level of Effort: Low
- Cost: \$0

Continue to see what mode of transportation students are using to get to and from school. The student survey will allow the SRTS task force to see if more students are walking or biking to and from school. Have one of the math classes do the statistical analysis on the surveys.

#### 3. *Geography Class*

- Organizer: School Administration
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

Have each student put a push pin on a map as to where they live. The color of the push pin would match a mode of transportation (i.e. Blue push pin = biking). This map could be

utilized by the SRTS Task Force to see where the majority of students who are walking or biking to school are coming from.

**4. Bike and Walk Audits**

- Organizer: SRTS Committee
- Level of Effort: Medium
- Cost:

Continue to assess each school and areas around the school for additional safety concerns.

The Town of Grand Chute SRTS Task Force will continue to do parent and student surveys to see if attitudes and behaviors are changing.

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**SCHOOL SPECIFIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Badger Elementary School**

Under Development

**Houdini Elementary School**

Under Development

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