Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Traffic and Pedestrian Safety
September 8, 2026
Work Session

History



- The School Board directed the creation of an annual Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Report during its January 14, 2025, Work Session
- Piloted the program with six schools in spring 2025
- First divisionwide review took place during the 2025-2026 school year
- Report completed June 30, 2026, and posted to FCPS website

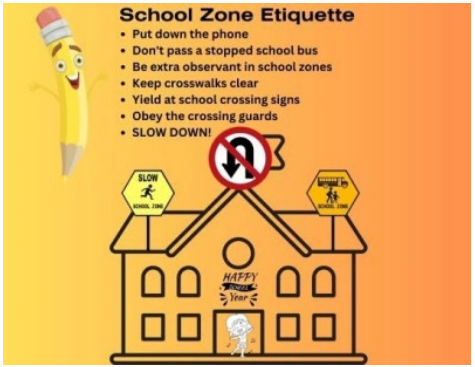
Safe Routes to School (SRTS)



- 2 Full-Time Employees, 2 Hourly employees
- Primary Function: Support safe, active transportation for families and students (“People Focused”)
  - Walking route coordination with transportation
  - Walking and Biking Route Creation
  - Bike Education for PE Teachers – including resource curriculum
  - Bike Bus Presentations
  - Traffic Garden Design and Implementation
  - Health Fairs
  - Walking School Bus Presentations and Organization
  - PTA Outreach and Meetings
  - Ensuring bike infrastructure is available at schools
  - Bike distribution
  - Puzzle Hunt
  - Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Report

Safety Specialist – Safety Section

- 1 Full-Time Employee
- Primary Function: Traffic Safety Coordination with Other Government Agencies (“Vehicle Focused”)
  - Liaison with VDOT, FCDOT, Police Traffic Division
    - Requests for Crossing Guard Evaluations
    - Signage issues
    - Wink-O-Matic Coordination
    - Traffic Calming Requests
  - Kiss-and-ride evaluations
  - Coordination with Transportation for Walking Route Safety



Design & Construction / Facilities

- Engineering and legality of use
- Renovation queue and proposed inputs
- Information about walking paths
- On-property signage
- Permitting for off-property signage (Wink-o-matics), maintenance agreements, and installation
- ADA requirements
- Sidewalk changes / on-property cross walks
- Landscaping to ensure line-of-sight mitigation
- Lighting on approach paths



Transportation

- Evaluation of School Bus Maneuvering at Schools / Stops
- Historical Insight into Traffic Challenges
- Information about Timing of Buses / Number of Buses
- Occupancy of Arriving Buses
- Walker v. Bus Populations
- Routing Information



Methodology

- September: Schools acclimate to routines, arrivals
- October / November: Self-assessment by principals
- December / January: Data Review (“Top 10 identified”)
- February – April: Multi-disciplinary team (SRTS, Safety, Transportation, Facilities, Design & Construction) site visits
- May – June: Report Preparation / Posted to Website

The Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Report Targets the 10 most challenged schools, but these teams conduct assessments and provide recommendations throughout the school year.

Primary District Finding

- Kiss-and-Ride and Vehicle Congestion
  - Increased Vehicle Usage
  - Infrastructure Limitations
  - Staffing Limitations
  - Unsafe Driving Behaviors



Specific Findings

- Each of the targeted schools received a specific list of recommended improvements
  - Some were able to be implemented immediately
  - Some required action by partners (VDOT, FCDOT)
  - Mapping / Diagrams
  - Communications to school community



Changes for SY 26-27

- Earlier Feedback to Schools
- Better Coordination with FCDOT / VDOT
- Greater Community Feedback in process
- Updates to the Mitigation Toolkit
- Data Collection Changes (SIS v. actual)



Discussion