

## **APPENDIX A**

# **STUDENT TRAVEL PLANNING (STP) TCDSB BEST PRACTICES AND PROTOCOLS**

## **KISS AND RIDE PROGRAM BEST PRACTICE**

The purpose of the **Kiss and Ride Program** is to provide children a safe way from their car to the schoolyard without stopping traffic. The Kiss and Ride program is run by volunteers and requires the school to have the appropriate infrastructure in place to operate correctly.

### **1. Kiss and Ride Best Practices/Protocols:**

- Vehicles passing through the drop off area must proceed slowly with caution and wait their turn to pass through and exit. Passing cars in the process of dropping of students is prohibited.
  - Ensure children are prepared for drop off with all of their belongings and exit at curb-side (passenger side of vehicle). This will allow for quick and safe drop offs.
  - To avoid rushing, plan to arrive about 10-15 minutes prior to the first bell. This will help reduce people speeding and cutting around cars in the loop, which puts the students who may be crossing and or walking in danger.
  - Parking is prohibited in kiss and ride lanes. Parking in these lanes will create congestion and cause more hazards to safe arrival and departure of students.
2. This program has the potential to greatly improve traffic flow around a school site during the rush periods. A Kiss and Ride program can also improve student safety as it attempts to add order to the often chaotic nature of rush periods.
3. Kiss and Ride programs require necessary infrastructure to be in place at a school site to operate correctly. They are also supervised by parent volunteers which may be a challenge to find in certain school communities.

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### **WALKING SCHOOL BUS BEST PRACTICES:**

A **Walking School Bus Program** is an “active” transportation strategy designed to offer students an opportunity to regularly walk to school together, often led by adult volunteers. A Walking School Bus relies on adult supervision, based on the premise of greater visibility through safety in numbers. The other benefits include physical activity, a great social atmosphere and fun on the way to school, which helps students arrive energized and ready for the day. A Cycling School Bus is a variation with bikes.

#### **Walking School Bus Best Practices/Protocols:**

- Ensure the route being taken is safe and walkable.
  - Teach students to be cautious of road safety and to always be aware of their surroundings.
  - Organize a schedule for walking school bus volunteers.
  - When creating the walking school bus route, be mindful of where students live so that the greatest amount of children can participate.
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1. The purpose of the **Walking School Bus** program is to organize safe walking routes for elementary school students. In a walking school bus, groups of elementary students meet regularly to walk to school together under the supervision of parent volunteers.
  2. One of the key advantages of the walking school bus is its flexibility. Routes may originate from various different locations at various different times and on different days of the week depending on the needs of a community.
  3. Walking school busses rely on parent volunteers in order to be successful. They also require a local champion who is highly organized to coordinate the initiative.