

McKinley Elementary PTA Safe Routes to School

Walking School Bus Student Consent Form

Parents of children who participate in the Walking School Bus (WSB) are asked to read and share with their children the following conditions, which apply to themselves, their children and the volunteers.

Parents

1. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child is “handed over” to the WSB volunteers. WSB volunteers are not responsible for the safety of children between their home and the designated WSB route. *Consider talking with other families in your WSB group if you need assistance getting your child from your home to the designated WSB route.*
2. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children arrive on time at the designated pick-up point. **WSB volunteers cannot delay the timed schedule** because this could affect the safety and convenience of other participants and their families. In the event of a child missing the WSB, parents are responsible for the child’s trip to or from school. *The WSB schedule has a window of time that volunteer will be at the stop. The volunteers are asked to be on time and set their clocks with the atomic clock.*
3. Parents are expected to emphasise to their children that they must comply with the directions given by the volunteer during the trip between home and school.
4. Parents accept that, although the risk of harm to children is reduced by the presence of volunteers, it cannot be eliminated.
5. Injury claims cannot be assumed to be covered. The Federal Volunteer Protection act covers most claims involving negligence of the WSB volunteers.
6. Parents are responsible for using their own discretion about the weather conditions that make the WSB inappropriate on a particular day. **Volunteers will individually make the decision by 7:20 am** that day. Although volunteers will endeavour to advise parents when the WSB is not walking, this may not be possible on all occasions.
7. Parents are expected to notify WSB volunteers if their child will not be walking on any particular day by 7:30 am.
8. A phone tree list and preferred contact will be provided to parents and volunteers. Sending of text messages is preferred for those who have this service.
9. Families are responsible for providing appropriate clothing for their children. Parents can contact the PTA SRTS committee leader or McKinley school if they are in need of assistance with weather appropriate clothing. Efforts will be made to obtain appropriate clothing but not guaranteed. Volunteers can advise parents if they do not feel child’s clothing is appropriate for weather conditions.

Children

1. Children need to follow the three “**Golden Rules**”
 - * Walk
 - * Stay on the Sidewalk
 - * Walk Sensibly
2. Children are expected to behave responsibly in relation to the road traffic environment and towards other WSB participants.
3. Children who cannot comply with the directions of the volunteers or exhibit inappropriate behaviour may be asked to cease walking with the WSB.
4. Bullying will not be tolerated on the WSB. Bullying or other serious behaviour incidents will be reported to parents and McKinley school officials.

Parent Volunteers

1. In the event of an accident, injury or illness arising during the scheduled trip, volunteers have the parent(s) approval to seek medical assistance as required and this is to be at the cost of the parent/carer. The volunteers will carry contact phone numbers that parents provide them.
2. Volunteers have the authority to alter the WSB route without notice if a route hazard occurs that would place the participants at risk. Parents will be notified of such changes as soon as is practicable.
3. Volunteers will complete the required training, undergo a background check, and manage the WSB according to the conditions agreed in the Volunteer Agreement.

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McKinley Elementary Walking School Bus Student Consent Form

Please return completed form to the school office

I/we have read the Walking School Bus Student Consent Form and acknowledge and agree to the conditions. I have discussed the rules of the WSB with my child.

I/we give permission for our family contact details to be distributed to WSB volunteers, and for photos of our child/ren engaged in WSB activities to be printed in the school newsletter and other WSB promotional material. *Circle Yes No*

| Child Name | Classroom Teacher | Days using WSB |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | Mon-Fri OR Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri |
| | | Mon-Fri OR Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri |
| | | Mon-Fri OR Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri |
| | | Mon-Fri OR Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri |
| | | Mon-Fri OR Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri |

Parent/Carer's names

Address

Phone: Mobile (Texting available: yes/no)

Texting is the preferred contact for morning updates to/from WSB volunteers. Please provide alternative preferred contact information if texting is not available.

Home Work

Alternate contact(name, phone number)

Email

Parent/ Guardian Signature..... Date