

COLOMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTION PLAN

WESTFIELD SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM



715.228.2851 | 210 Linden Street | Coloma, WI 54930 | EastCentralSRTS.org

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of the SRTS program is to provide safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities that encourage healthier lifestyles. Programs can be established to educate students, parents, and the community on the benefits of walking and bicycling to school and provide tips to do so safely. Major SRTS goals are:

1. To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bike to school.
2. To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
3. To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

SRTS Planning efforts assess the facilities and conditions near school, examine how students are currently traveling to/from school, and identify safety concerns/issues raised by parents and the community. Infrastructure and non-infrastructure recommendations are then created and implemented, sometimes with grant funding assistance, by the SRTS Task Force and other community members. SRTS Plans focus on projects within two miles of an elementary or middle school (Kindergarten-8th grade) and address the 5 E's:

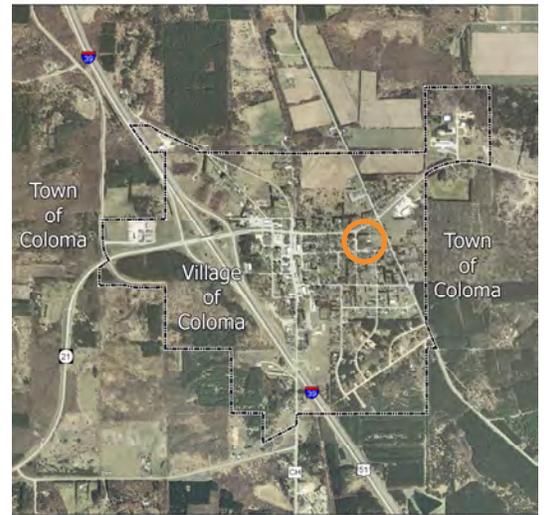
Engineering Enforcement Education Encouragement Evaluation

COLOMA ELEMENTARY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Coloma Elementary School is located within the Village of Coloma. Currently there is not busing available for students living within the village limits. Westfield School District does have a biodiesel program that has been incorporated into all of their buses. Despite the school being a rural school district, there is a high percentage of students that walk and bike to school. The primary mode of travel for students attending Coloma Elementary School is the school bus and the family vehicle. The distance, amount and speed of traffic along the route and sidewalks were among the top reasons given by parents that do not allow their children to walk or bike to school. During the bike and walk audit, it was noted that students riding the bus were dismissed first and then students walking, biking, or riding in a family vehicle were dismissed after the buses had left the school building.

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

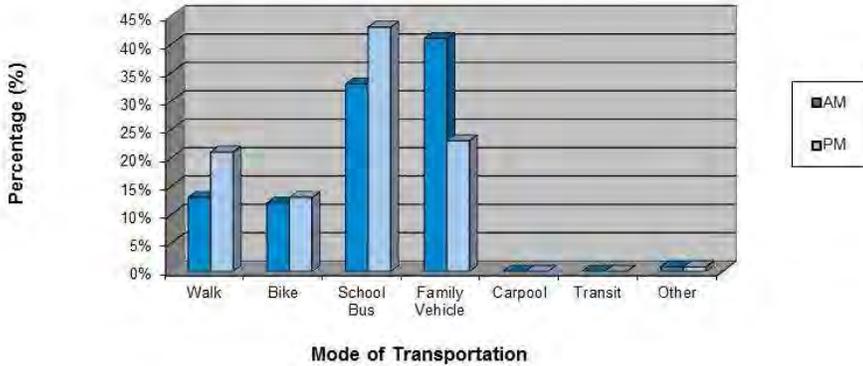
Enrollment: 111 students
Grades: K - 6
Principal: Jennifer Johnson
Start Time: x:xx a.m.
End Time: x:xx p.m.
Task Force Rep.:



SRTS Background Information.....1
 Survey Results & Background Info.....2
 Bike & Walk Audit Results.....3
 Recommendations: The 5 E's.....4

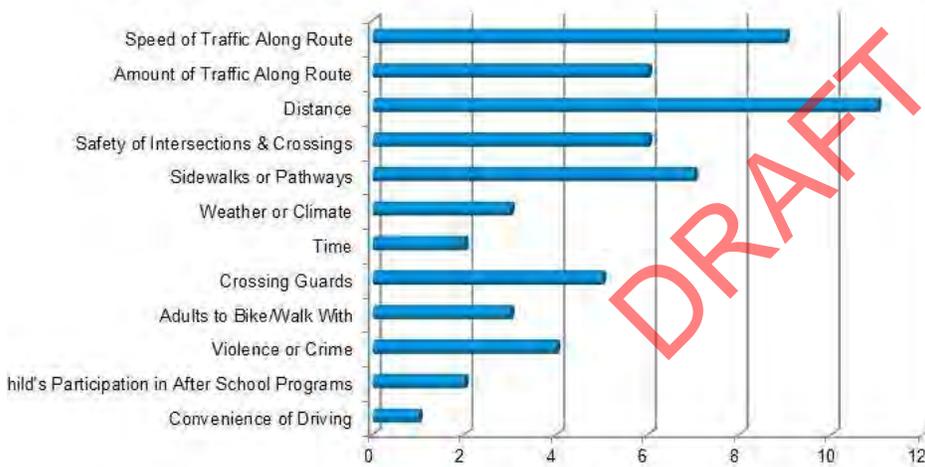
PARENT & STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

**Coloma Elementary School Student Survey Results
Morning and Afternoon Comparison**



Survey Data Collected in April 2012

**Coloma Elementary School
Parent Concerns of Children That Do Not Walk or Bike to School**



Survey Data Collected in April 2012



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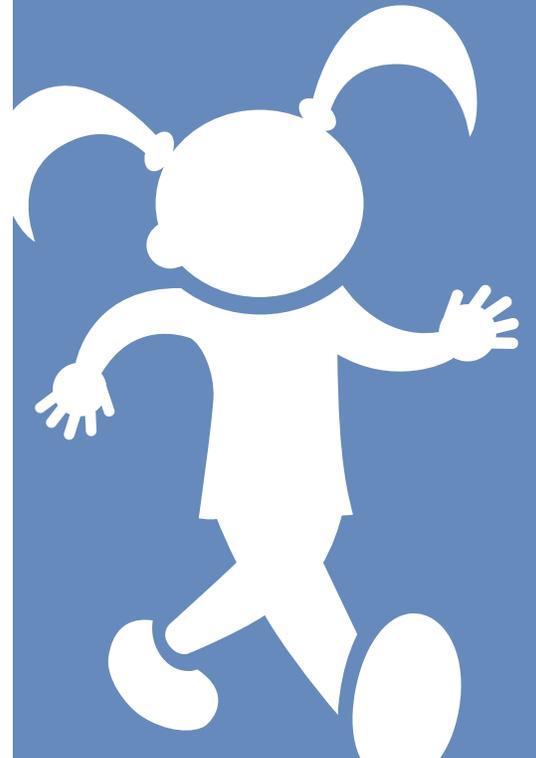
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Background Information

The Westfield School District is quite large and made up of mostly rural areas. Currently there students within the Village of Coloma walk, bike or ride in the family vehicle to get to and from school. The Coloma Elementary School has been working with the village police department along with Waushara County Health Department to teach 2nd graders about bike safety and they have conducted a bike rodeo annually.

Coloma Elementary School has a mileage club where students receive awards for laps around the playground during recess times. The school forest is within walking distance of the Coloma Elementary School. Students walk to the forest for educational opportunities regularly (at a minimum , every other week when the weather permits). Coloma Elementary School has a Fit Club which is a monthly calendar given by the P.E. teacher. Students receive recognition and rewards for being active every day, each month.

Westfield School District also uses biodiesel fuel for 50% of the fuel in all of their school buses.



EXAMPLES

Recess Rovers or Moving Miles is a great way to get students moving in the morning or during recess. Students would be able to walk a marked route on the playground to redeem punches for their frequent walker card.



Recommendations Developed by
the Coloma SRTS Task Force



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SRTS Action Plan prepared by East Central Wisconsin Regional Safe Routes to School Program, April 2012. For additional information, please contact Melissa Kraemer Badtke, Regional SRTS Coordinator, at 920.751.4770 or visit www.eastcentralsrts.org.

RECOMMENDATIONS

~ Engineering ~

- **School Zone Feedback Signs** - These signs provide drivers with their current speed during peak school zone hours.
- **High visibility ladder style crosswalks at designated intersections** - High visibility crosswalks improve pedestrian visibility to drivers and emphasize the recommended path for crossing an intersection.
- **Sidewalk Stencils** - Students and members of the community will have a visual reminder of designated routes to and from school. The stencils would encourage students to use these routes and reassure parents that planning and analysis has gone into developing the routes.
- **Consider bike/pedestrian accommodations (including sidewalks) during road reconstruction projects around the school and throughout the community**

~ Enforcement ~

- **Student Safety Patrol Program** - Students are trained to look for traffic and help other students cross designated intersections around the school.
- **Speed Trailers** - These can be parked at or near schools to show passing motorists the speed at which they are traveling.
- **Corner Captains** - Have adults stationed along a designated route to make sure that children who are walking to or from school get there safely.
- **Law Enforcement Presence** - Work with the New London Police Department to increase enforcement at and around schools, particularly during drop-off and pick-up times.

~ Education ~

- **Bike Rodeo/Safety Course** - A Bike Rodeo is usually a course where students are able to work on their bicycle handling skills.
- **Walk or Bike Across America** - Walk or Bike Across America involves students to keep track of the miles that 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.
- **Walking Math** - 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.
- **Bike Shoppe** - A bicycle shoppe would be developed at a Middle School where students would be able to work on and fix up bicycles.
- **Helmet Education** - Continue to encourage and do helmet education in the school.
- **Assemblies/Guest Speakers** - 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.

~ Encouragement ~

- **Recess Rovers/Moving Miles** - Teachers take a break from teaching in the morning and walk with the students around the block or during recess students who ride the bus would be able to walk a marked route on the playground to redeem punches for their frequent walker card.
- **Golden Sneaker Award** - 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.
- **Cops 'n Cones** - Local law enforcement officers give out coupons to the local ice cream place to students wearing their bicycle helmets.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Quiz Show** - Based on the television quiz show, *Jeopardy*, this activity involves students playing a game in order to learn about pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- **Walking School Bus/ Cycle Train Program** - The Walking School Bus is simply a group of students walked to school along a designated route by a parent or adult volunteer. The Cycle Train is basically the bicycle version of a Walking School Bus.
- **Continued Participation in Annual Walk/Bike to School Day Events**

~ Evaluation ~

- **Student and Parent Surveys** - Conduct periodic parent and student surveys in conjunction with the Regional SRTS Program.
- **Bike/Walk Audits** - Continue annual audits to assess safety concerns at and around the school