**[SCHOOL or SCHOOL DISTRICT HEADING]**

**POLICY RELATING TO THE IDLING OF VEHICLES OTHER THAN SCHOOL BUSES WHEN PRESENT ON SCHOOL PREMISES**

**Applicability:** This policy applies to all motor vehicles on school grounds other than school buses (school bus idling is subject to regulation under the California Air Resources Board (ARB) [Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM)](https://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/sbidling/sbidling.htm) limiting school bus idling and idling at or near schools to only when necessary for safety or operational concerns.

**Background:** [SCHOOL or SCHOOL DISTRICT] recognizes that motor vehicle idling poses a risk to people in the vicinity and to the environment. Exhaust from motor vehicle emissions may contribute to human health problems, air pollution, and global climate change. In addition, the U.S. EPA states monitoring at schools has shown elevated levels of air toxics during the afternoon hour coinciding with parents picking up their children. Children’s lungs are still developing, and when they are exposed to elevated levels of these pollutants, children have an increased risk of developing asthma, respiratory problems and other adverse health effects. Limiting a vehicle’s idling time can dramatically reduce these pollutants and children’s exposure to them.

Furthermore, the State of California [Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) No. 160 Relative to vehicular air pollution](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160ACR160) measure encourages motorists to not idle their motor vehicles near places where children congregate.

**Definition:** As used in this policy, the term “school grounds” shall mean any area adjacent to school buildings and used at any time for school related activities, including parking lots, playing fields and driveways.

**Policy:** Subject to exceptions developed by the (principal or superintendent), the operators of motor vehicles, other than school buses, shall not allow their vehicles to idle while on school grounds.

The principal or superintendent or his or her designee shall:

* Post “no idling” signs to notify the operators of motor vehicles on school grounds that idling is limited; engines must be turned off when a vehicle is waiting or parked, particularly when picking up students.
* Specific policy for pick up/dismissal: a vehicle engine should be shut off within 30 seconds of arrival and remain shut off until official dismissal time. At this time, if a vehicle in line is more than 100’ from a school entrance, the engine may be started and the vehicle may move forward to within 100’ of a school entrance where upon the engine should be shut off and not be restarted until the vehicle is ready to depart. If practicable, identify an indoor waiting area for individuals waiting for students.
* Prohibit the use of remote engine starter devices by school staff.
* Prohibit the idling of delivery vehicles when loading or unloading. Where engine idling is needed to facilitate delivery (such as fuel delivery), delivery shall not take place when school is in session. New or renewed delivery vehicle contracts shall contain no-idling clause.
* Prohibit the idling of vehicles used by visiting schools while waiting for students during school-sponsored events.
* Develop and enforce regulations to allow limited idling as needed for health and safety, such as in outdoor temperature extremes, to operate equipment to accommodate students or vehicle occupants with disabilities or to defrost windshields when required for safe vehicle operation.
* Study the feasibility of relocating school building air intake systems away from parking areas when practical and shall consider other measures to reduce intake of vehicle exhaust where relocating intake systems is not feasible.

**Policy Reinforcement:** To help make the policy effective, it is strongly suggested that information on the policy be disseminated in the school community at certain intervals, including annual letter to parents and delivery contractors, and quarterly reminders in school newsletters. Guidelines for additional reinforcement measures available at U.S. EPA Idle Free Schools website: <https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment>

**Date Adopted:**