

# Safe Routes to School Programs in the East Central Region

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East Central Wisconsin Regional  
Planning Commission

# Purpose of Safe Routes to School Program

- ? To enable and encourage children K-8<sup>th</sup> grade, including those with disabilities to walk and bike to school
- ? To make bicycling and walking to school safer and more appealing
- ? To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution within 2 miles of schools.

# Federal objectives for the SRTS Program

- ? Enable participation on a variety of levels
- ? Make the program accessible to diverse participants
- ? Promote comprehensive SRTS programs and activities
- ? Maximize the impact of the funds

# Why Safe Routes to School?



# Physical Activity

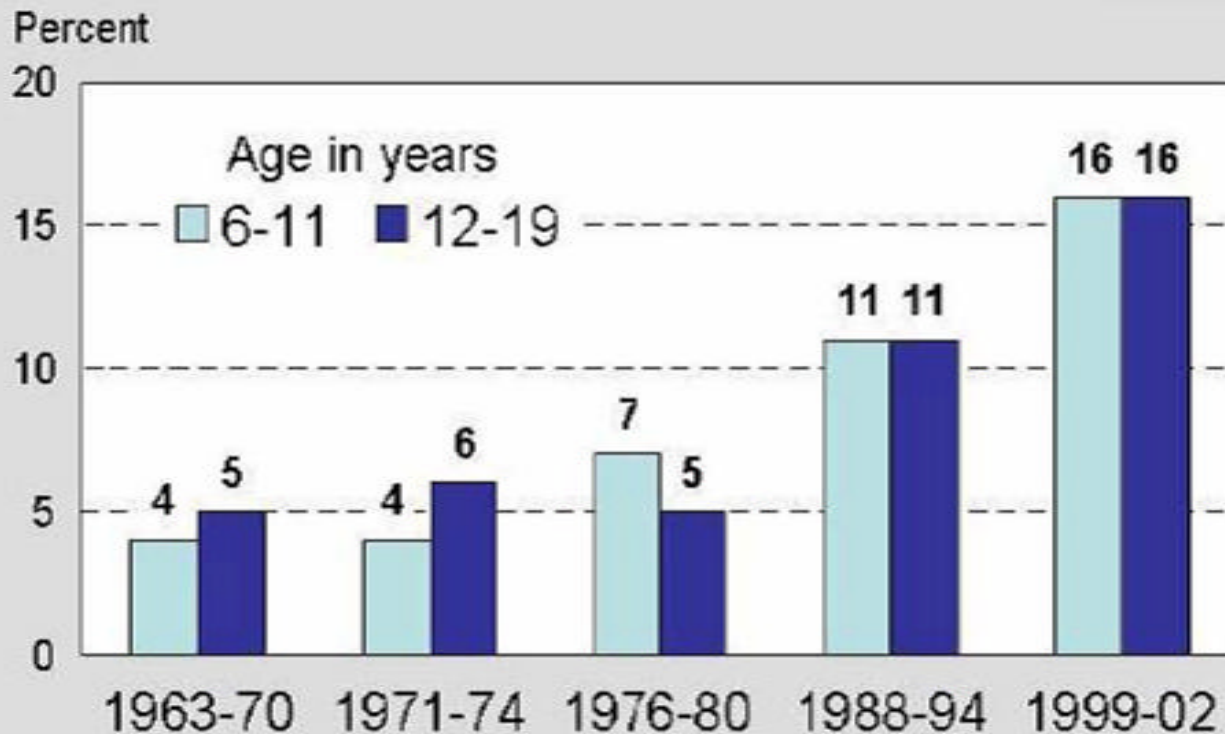
## ? Physical Activity

- Most kids aren't getting the physical activity they need.



# Overweight Children

## Prevalence of overweight among children and adolescents ages 6-19 years



NOTE: Excludes pregnant women starting with 1971-74. Pregnancy status not available for 1963-65 and 1966-70. Data for 1963-65 are for children 6-11 years of age; data for 1966-70 are for adolescents 12-17 years of age, not 12-19 years.  
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, NHES and NHANES

# Cleaner Environment

? Less cars=less pollutants=cleaner environment=fewer health problems



# Fewer kids are biking and walking. More parents are driving.

? 2001:

- 16% walked

? 1969:

- 42% walked

(CDC, 2005)



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# Elements of a Safe Routes to School Program

- ? Engineering
- ? Encouragement
- ? Education
- ? Enforcement
- ? Evaluation



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# Overview

- ? Brief overview of WisDOT Grant Cycle
- ? SRTS Programs within East Central's Region
- ? SRTS Activities
  - Education
  - Encouragement
  - Enforcement
- ? Other SRTS Partners
- ? Regional SRTS Program

# WisDOT SRTS Grant Cycle

- ? Grant applications available in early 2010
  - Planning Grants
  - Infrastructure Grants
  - Non-Infrastructure Grants
- ? Grant application due spring 2010
- ? Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grants also available in 2010

# SRTS Programs in East Central's Region

- ? 10 out of 57 school districts in EC's region have a SRTS Program
  - ~45 schools participating
- ? 2009 International Walk to School Day
  - 16 schools participating



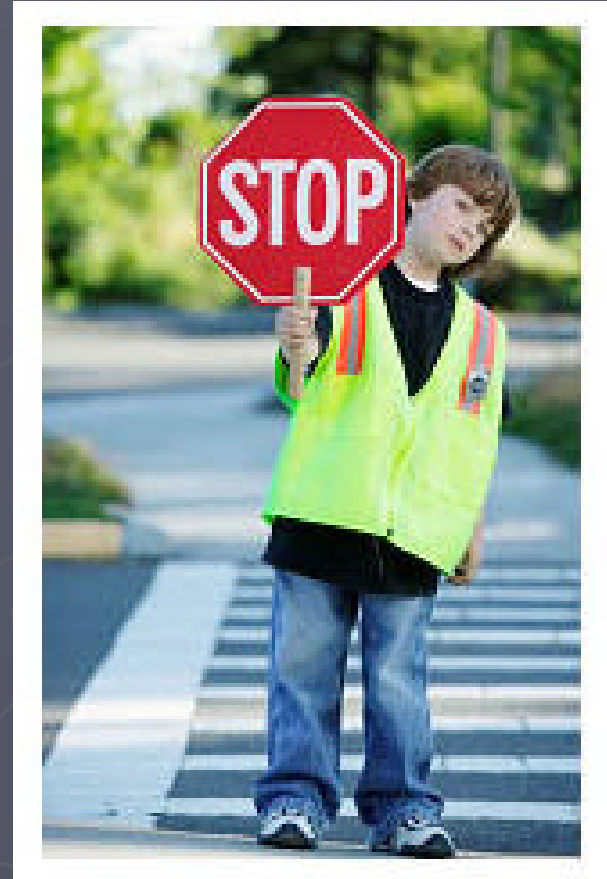
# Current SRTS Programs

- ? Appleton
- ? Brillion
- ? Fond du Lac
- ? Hortonville/Greenville
- ? Grand Chute
- ? Kimberly
- ? Little Chute
- ? Omro
- ? Oshkosh
- ? Seymour
- ? Winneconne



# SRTS Developing Plans

- ? Brillion
- ? Fond du Lac
- ? Grand Chute
- ? Omro



# Appleton Area SRTS

## ? Three Schools Received SRTS Funding

- Franklin Elementary School
- Lincoln Elementary School
- Richmond Elementary School

## ? SRTS Activities

- Parent/Teacher Incentives
- Public Service Announcement
- Education for Healthy Kids Summer Institute
  - ? Healthy Kids Committees

# Appleton Area SRTS conti.

## ? SRTS Activities conti.

- Engineering Infrastructure
- Roundabout Training
  - ? College Avenue Bridge Roundabout
- Safety Patrol Program



# Fond du Lac Area SRTS

## ? Programs

- Safe Kid Zone Campaign
- Parent Pledge Program
- Walk to School Day
- Fond du Lac Bike Safety Initiative (Wear It! Watch It! Ride Safe!)
- Public Service Announcements



## **2006-2007 SAFE KID ZONE PARENT SAFETY PLEDGE**

- \* SLOW DOWN
- \* BE ALERT
- \* BE PATIENT
- \* REVIEW AND KNOW YOUR SCHOOL RULES
- \* CROSS AT CROSS WALKS
- \* STAY OFF CELL PHONES
- \* STOP THE CAR COMPLETELY WHEN LOADING AND UNLOADING YOUR CHILDREN
- \* IT IS GETTING DARK EARLIER, HEAD LIGHTS ON FOR SAFETY
- \* WATCH FOR ICY ROAD CONDITIONS
- \* ENJOY THE TIME WITH YOUR CHILDREN

***As part of the Fond du Lac community, I/we will follow the Rules of the Safe Kid Zone Campaign. I/We am committed To keeping our kids safe and will be a good role model.***

**Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_**

# Grand Chute SRTS

- ? Currently developing a SRTS Plan
- ? Healthy Kids Committees
  - Implementing healthy lifestyles within the classroom
  - Participated in International Walk to School Day

# Kimberly Area SRTS

- ? CE Underpass Project
  - Transportation Enhancement Grant
- ? Noe Road Project
  - ARRA Stage 2 Project
- ? Culver's Ice Cream Challenge
- ? Future Education & Encouragement Activities
  - Possible bike rodeo event
  - Working with the Sunrise PTO



# Little Chute Area SRTS

## ? SRTS Programs

- Walk to School Day
  - ? Breakfast with a buddy
    - Sponsored by the PTA
- Bicycle Rodeo
- Ice Cream Incentive
- Walking Program
- Wellness Programs



# Omro SRTS Program

- ? 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bicycling Field Trip
  - Bicycle Safety Education in Physical Education Course
  - Groups of 10 students with 2 adult chaperones.
- ? Bicycle Maintenance Shop
  - High school students receive community service hours required for graduation.
- ? Walking School Bus Program
- ? Fox River Fitness Trail

# Oshkosh Area SRTs

- Speed Watch Program
- Participation in International Walk to School Day
- Safety Patrol Training

## No need for speed

Program aims to reduce speeding in school zones

BY JENNIFER K. WOLST of The Northwestern

A smile and wave won't be enough to prevent the woman in the green Ford from getting a letter from the police.

Parent volunteers from Jacob Shapiro Elementary School clocked the woman going at least 10 miles an hour over the speed limit in a school zone, an offense that earned her a letter from the Oshkosh Police Department that will urge her to slow down in school zones.

Starting last week, schools in the Oshkosh school district pulled out their banners and radar guns in hopes of reminding drivers to slow down in school zones.

During the first week of the three-week program, parent volunteers stood in the posted school zone with a banner, reminding drivers to slow down. This week, volunteers will use a school district-owned radar gun, and any driver going 10 miles per hour over the speed limit in the school zone will receive a letter.

**ON THE WEB**

FORUMS: Use the Neighborhood Watch in Oshkosh forum to tell us about concerns with public safety in your neighborhood. [WWW.NORTHWESTERN.COM](http://WWW.NORTHWESTERN.COM)

**Parent Volunteers** Kirsten Langka, left, and Cindy Hoetsch, along with Langka's eighth-grade son Trever, use a radar gun to catch speeders at the intersection of Knapp Street and 17th Avenue at the Jacob Shapiro Elementary School zone the morning of April 30.

**SPEED, PAGE A4**



## SLOW DOWN WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT



**CROSSING GUARD JIM WEBER** helps students cross the street on their way to Franklin Elementary School this week. The Oshkosh Police Department is enforcing the 15 mph school zone speed limit.

## Keeping kids safe

Volunteers to watch for speeders in school zones

BY DOUG ZELMER of The Northwestern

School is back in session and parents are gearing up to slow down speeding vehicles.

Starting Monday, volunteer parents will begin a yearlong program to watch for speeders in Oshkosh school zones. Each elementary and middle school in the city will be patrolled at scheduled times throughout the school year, said Ann Rumbac, a member of the Oshkosh School Zone Safety Committee.

Volunteers are scheduled to work Smith and Roosevelt elementary schools next week in efforts to slow down drivers.

"Our children need to know that they're safe walking to school and that we're looking out for them," Rumbac said.

She said a three-week program to check for speeding vehicles will be undertaken at elementary and middle schools during the 2006-07 school year.

During the first week, volunteers at designated

**THE SCHOOL SPEED ZONE** on North Avenue near Franklin Elementary School is busy during the morning. The Oshkosh Police Department is trying to step up enforcement of all school zones.

**At a glance**

- A citation for a first time offense in speeding 1 to 10 miles over the posted school zone speed limit of 15 mph is a fine of \$173.40 and for 11 to 15 mph above the limit the fine is \$166.00, according to state law.

Source: Oshkosh Police Department

schools will hold banners before and after school to tell motorists to slow down in a school zone. The second week they'll

**SAFE, PAGE A4**



Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, 2007

# Seymour SRTS

- ? Issue: 23 school buses loading out to STH 54
  - Police Officer on STH 54 directing traffic every day
- ? Developed a committee to look at alternatives
  - Hired a consultant
  - Constructed the first phase in the summer of 2009

# Winneconne Area SRTS

## ? Current SRTS Programs

- Walk to School Day
- Winneconne Community School District Staff Wellness Program
- Physical Activity Instruction
  - ? Wellness Policy
  - ? Bike Safety Instruction
  - ? Safety Patrol
  - ? Movin' Schools Program

### Walk on Students, Walk on!

By Monica Wicinsky  
Staff Writer

In an effort that borrowed talents from the entire community, students of the Winneconne Community School District participated in International Walk to School Day last Wednesday.

Buses dropped middle school and high school students on Ninth Avenue by the Laundromat, from there the kids walked on the sidewalks to the school. Buses then proceeded into Lake Winneconne Park and dropped elementary students off by the pavilion. Their

walk took them up Third Avenue, across Main Street and to the elementary school.

Police officers were stationed at each drop-off point and on Main Street, to help guide students, provide safety and direct traffic. Pete Running, police chief, who was stationed at Ninth Avenue, commented on the effort and thought, "Things went pretty well, very well." Parent volunteers were stationed along routes and at intersections, to walk with students and helped keep pace to make the event successful, safe and timely.



Middle school students proceeded down Ninth Avenue in large clusters as buses reached the drop off point.



# Other SRTS Partners

- ? Activate Fox Cities
  - Corridors and Connections Committee
  - Education Committee
- ? Fox Valley Health Partnership Committee
  - Walk to Win Program
- ? Fox Cities Greenways
- ? Local Health Departments
  - Wellness Wednesdays - Outagamie County Health Dept.
  - Development of Community Health Improvement Plan - Winnebago County Health Dept.
- ? Waupaca County Nutrition & Physical Activity Coalition

# Regional SRTS Activities

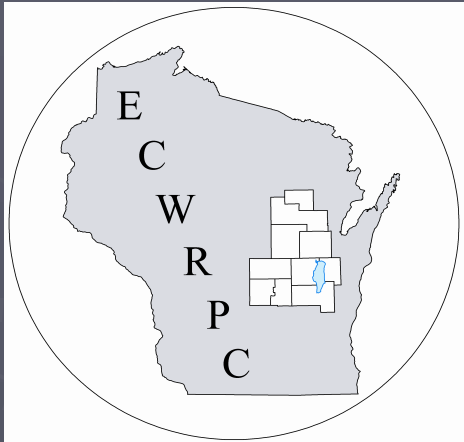
- ? Regional SRTS Website
  - Resources
  - Guidebooks
- ? SRTS Electronic Newsletter
- ? Media/Marketing Campaign
  - Development of Logo (regional & local)
  - Public Service Announcements
  - Community Education regarding the Regional SRTS Program
- ? Development of a Regional SRTS Plan

# Regional SRTS Activities continued

- ? SRTS Workshops  
(Spring and Fall 2010)
- ? Assistance to Local  
SRTS Programs
- ? Assistance and  
incentives for...
  - Bike to School Day
  - International Walk to  
School Day



# Questions?



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