



VEHICLE IDLING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Category: Transportation

Effective: August 2013

Policy Statement

Exhaust fumes from idling vehicles can cause poor indoor air quality when they enter school buildings and school buses through doors, windows, and ventilation systems. Additionally, exhaust fumes cause poor outdoor air quality. Because vehicle emissions are harmful to human respiratory systems particularly in the very young and very old, the District Education Council for Anglophone West School District endorses a no-idling policy for all vehicles in schoolyards. This policy is established in conjunction with the N.B. Lung Association's *Healthy School Program*.

Procedures

For School Buses:

In order to improve air quality both inside and outside schools and school buses for the loading and unloading of students, school bus drivers are expected to:

1. Arrive at schools no sooner than 5 minutes prior to dismissal time.
2. Shut down engines and turn off all switches.
3. Operate red flashing lights and two-way radios from the "on" position of the ignition, if these functions do not operate from auxiliary position.
4. Once students are loaded, start engines, and depart.

It is recognized that during extreme weather conditions such as freezing rain and sticky snow, it may be necessary to run fans and heaters to keep windshields clear. This would mean running engines during these types of extreme conditions only.

For Private and Commercial Vehicles:

Individuals are requested to turn off their vehicle engines while on school property.

Reference

- Department of Education – [Policy 504 – School Vehicle Inspection, Maintenance and Reduction of Idling](#)
- N.B. Lung Association Healthy Schools Program