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## Resource Center News: Student Travel Tally Month

**September** is **Student Travel Tally Month** for the Resource Center. The Student Travel Tally is a quick, in-class survey that provides valuable information on student travel patterns. Completing student tallies will also help your school become a **Silver Level** partner with the Resource Center! Collecting tallies on an annual basis is a great way to track the impact of your SRTS program.

Download the Student Travel Tally form [here](#) and provide one form to each homeroom teacher during the same week in September. On two days during that week, each teacher



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator:

The California Department of Education, with help from other California agencies and organizations, recently released a new [Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum](#) for students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

To launch the release of the curriculum, the California Department of Public Health is planning a [webinar on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM](#). The

will ask their students how they arrived to school. Once the forms are completed, contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator \(SOC\)](#), and we'll help get your forms to the National Center for Safe Routes to School for processing. A tip sheet for completing the tallies can be found [here](#). Your school will then receive a complete report of your students' travel patterns!

Another great way to evaluate your Safe Routes to School program is to complete [Parent Surveys](#). Put this survey in your students' daily folders or hand it out at the first PTA meeting! The parent survey can also be completed online. Contact your local [SOC](#) for more information.

## Upcoming Event: International Walk to School Day is next month!

It is not too late to plan for International Walk to School Day (iWalk) on **October 7th** or any time in October! So far, more than [190 South Carolina schools](#) are planning to celebrate iWalk! Click [here](#) to register your event. There are many ways for your school to participate. Plan your events to encourage students to:

- **Walk TO School** from their home
- **Walk TO School** from a meeting location such as a park, grocery store, or church parking lot
- **Walk AT School** by having a school-wide walk around the campus in the morning, designated class time for grade-level walks throughout the day, or a group walk after lunch
- **Walk FROM School** to their homes, a designated pick-up location or to an after school care provider

webinar will cover an overview of the curriculum, and also include strategies on how to pair the curriculum with your [International Walk to School Day event](#). We encourage your PE Teachers, and other iWalk champions, to attend this webinar to learn about how to incorporate Safety Education Curricula into your iWalk event!

Remember, International Walk to School Day is a great time to talk with your students about pedestrian and bicycle safety. I encourage you to learn from our friends in California about new ideas to add educational elements to your event. [Click here to register now!](#)

## Learning Opportunity: Webinar: How to Develop a SRTS Travel Plan

Ready to take your SRTS program to the next level? Looking for that extra edge when applying for funding? Join us Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-4:30 p.m. as we discuss comprehensive SRTS travel plans. We'll cover the benefits of comprehensive SRTS travel plans, the process for developing them, and the support available from the SRTS Resource Center, including the Resource Center's new [Travel Plan Toolbox](#). [Click here](#) to register.

## Spotlight on a Friend: Saris 5th Grade Poster

**Walk After School** and invite students and parents to walk that afternoon/evening or plan an event with your after school program

Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance with planning a safe and fun event to fit your school's needs.

\*Incentives will be provided to [Partner Schools](#) with registered events on a first-come, first-served basis. To receive incentives before your event, please register on or before September 25<sup>th</sup>. The Resource Center will have a limited supply, and based on the number of past events, we may run out. [Register today!](#)

### Partner Highlight: Spotlight on our Partner's Events

Upstate: Monarch Elementary in Union County has invited a local karate instructor to serve as the parade leader of their iWalk event. After a brief karate demonstration and a talk about the importance of healthy eating and getting physical activity, the students and staff will walk around the school campus. Classes will design and carry banners displaying a karate theme for this year's event!

Midlands: Alice Drive Elementary in Sumter County will greet their students at designated meeting corners along the route to school. Faculty members will be equipped with flashlights to help guide students on their walk and will also note what improvements can be made along the routes. In addition, all students will participate in a pedestrian safety lesson during their PE class on the day of the event.

Lowcountry: Beaufort Elementary, students LOVE Fitness Fridays. They especially look

## Contest

The Resource Center is partnering with Saris Cycling Group (SCG), a manufacturer of bicycle racks and cycling training products, to provide a poster contest that encourages fifth graders to think about the benefits of bicycling. To enter, fifth grade students should create a poster with the theme **#longfortheride**. The contest promotes youth riding bicycles as a way to lead a healthy lifestyle. One statewide winner will be selected to receive a **FREE bike, bike light, and helmet**. And there are prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, too!

Mail your school's best poster (only one poster per school will be accepted) to:

SC SRTS Resource Center  
Saris Poster Contest  
10 Patewood Drive  
Building VI, Suite 500  
Greenville, SC 29615

Entries must be postmarked by **Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. Download the [Contest Rules](#) and make sure your school's entrant completes the [Permission Slip](#). For more information, and to submit your school's poster, contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#).

**Upcoming Opportunity:**

forward to International Walk to School Day, when they are escorted from the downtown marina by local police. As they walk to school, they are taught the importance of physical fitness and pedestrian safety. On this day students have the opportunity to make signs and demonstrate pride in this special event, their school, and the community.

### Grant Opportunity: Champions of the Environment Grant

Win a grant award and be featured in a commercial for doing your part to improve the environment! The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, has created a "Champions of the Environment" award program to recognize outstanding environmental projects. **Safe Routes to School** is listed as a "[recommended project idea](#)" for Preventing or Reducing Pollution in the Air! Projects must make a difference within the community and create a lasting difference. [Click here](#) to review the application!

Apply for a "Champions of the Environment" grant today. Applicants may be South Carolina's Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, students, or environmental educators. Applications are due October 15<sup>th</sup>. Awards will be made in November. The Champions of the Environment program is supported by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, International Paper and South Carolina Electric and Gas. [Request](#) a Walking School Bus Information Session now to get started! For more information, [click here](#).

Like us on 

### Walk to School Day Photo Contest

[International Walk to School Day](#) is less than one month away, so get your cameras ready! The Resource Center will host a Photo Contest on our [Facebook](#) page this fall and we'll be looking for pictures that showcase your exciting event!

Pictures must be sent to your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) by **Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**. [Click here](#) to see last year's photo contest submissions!

Keep up with the Resource Center this school year by liking us on [Facebook](#)!

"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!



*The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is a program of the South Carolina DOT*

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