

SOUTH CAROLINA

Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 3, Special iWalk Edition

South Carolina had another Record-Breaking International Walk to School Day!

This issue of the Resource Center newsletter is devoted to highlights from the across SC on International Walk to School Day. And, we have included ideas to keep the walking momentum going throughout the rest of the school year!



Chicora Elementary, North Charleston

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Resource Center News



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

From our State Coordinator

I am so excited to see the number of schools participating in International Walk to School Day grow each year! I would like to extend special congratulations to the schools who celebrated their inaugural iWalk event this year!

Mt. Holly
Legacy Charter School
Spartanburg Charter School
Mary H. Wright Elementary
Stone Academy
Meeting Street Academy
James J Davis Early Learning Center
Mitchell Elementary
Cottageville Elementary
Bells Elementary
Pepperhill Elementary
Hilton Head Island Baccalaureate Elementary
Conway Elementary
Pritchardville Elementary
East Aiken School of the Arts
East Clarendon Middle
Hand Middle
Jackson School
Killian Elementary
Langford Elementary
Saint Joseph School

International Walk to School Highlights

Congratulations to students, families and educators across the state because this year there were more than 130 schools registered to participated in iWalk! No matter how simple or elaborate your event, the Resource Center congratulates you and your school in participating in iWalk.

Many communities engaged elected officials, law enforcement, health and safety professionals and families to participate. Many schools hosted walking school buses and bicycle trains from near and far. We also heard from schools who encouraged their entire student population in Walk *at* School events.

- More than 130 South Carolina Schools registered and held Walk to School Day events.
- More than 50,000 students, parents, educators, and neighbors in SC participated in International Walk to School Day events on October 5, 2011.
- South Carolina ranked 6th in the US in participation in International Walk to School Day (#2 in the Southeast region behind Florida).
- The Mayor of Fountain Inn issued a proclamation for Walk to School Day.
- The Mayor of North Charleston participated in Walk to School Day at Chicora School of Communications.
- Mellichamp Elementary School held a Walk to School Assembly that featured a WTSD song, WTSD rap, steppers, dancers and a WTSD poster and essay contest for each grade. They then topped it off by having Orangeburg-Wilkerson High School Drum Line play for them throughout the entire school walk!

And, we encourage you to consider iWalk as a kick-off event for walking and bicycling at your school. After seeing the happy faces of your walking and biking students, are you interested in continuing your Safe Routes to School momentum?

Keep up the enthusiasm from Walk to School Day all month!

October is International Walk to School Month! Here are a few ways how the SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center can help your school encourage students and families to keep walking and biking all year!

- Create ongoing activities like walking school buses and bicycle trains.

South Kilbourne Elementary

I hope that your event will be the launch of many walking and rolling events in the months and years to come.

Happy walking and rolling . . .



Pritchardville Elementary, Beaufort

Oberstar Award October 26th, 2011

The National Center for Safe Routes to School is calling for applications!

The 2011 Oberstar Award recognizes one outstanding Safe Routes to School program that has greatly improved the safety or increased the number of students who walk and bicycle to school. The Oberstar Award also looks for additional successes including program sustainability, building community partnerships and implementing policy change.

[Read about past recipients here](#)

These success stories can serve as great examples and achievements to aim for with your own Safe Routes to School programs! In order to apply for the 2011 Oberstar Award, please visit the National Center for Safe Routes to School.

National Center Mini-Grant October 19, 2011

The National Center for Safe Routes to School is now accepting applications for 25 mini-grants of \$1,000 each to be used during the Spring 2012 semester. Schools may use these grants to fund their SRTS programs including safety items, bicycle racks, educational materials or professional safety services such as bicycle trainers.

The application deadline is Wednesday, October 19th.

- Check out the [Walking School Bus Tip Sheet](#) and the [Invitation to Join the Bike Train](#)
- Advertise and promote these activities with the [Weekly Activity Sign](#)
- Keep track of and recognize the students who walk and bike all month
 - Hand out the [Frequent Walker Punch Card](#)
 - Use the [Mileage Log](#) to create a mileage competition between classes
- Reinforce the ideas of pedestrian safety and physical activity to the students- Practicing safety skills and walking/biking isn't important just one day a year!
 - Integrate the [Pedestrian Safety Lessons and Activities](#) into PE, guidance, or the classroom
 - Take five minute exercise breaks during the day with the [Energizers](#) and [JAM School Program activities](#).
 - Check out the other ongoing activities and programs on www.SCsaferoutes.org to encourage and educate students to walk and bike more and be safe!
- Send home [Backpack mail](#) or the Safe Routes to School Monthly Newsletter with parents to spark discussions of safety and being active with their children.

Contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for help organizing any of these activities and other ideas for your school.

[Click here](#) for more information about the National Center's mini-grant program.



Manning Early Childhood Center, Manning



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

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