



Attendee list is on next slide

MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

BlueCross BlueShield Minnesota | Center for Prevention

THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

...is approximately 220 dedicated professionals from organizations and agencies that are advancing Safe Routes to School (SRTS) in Minnesota...

...that builds skills in Minnesota communities to successfully implement SRTS, supporting partnerships between state and local agencies, municipalities, and advocacy organizations, and advocating for policy changes to support walking and bicycling to schools and improvements to the built environment...

...and makes Minnesota a state where all students, no matter their race, ethnicity, income level, age, ability, or geographic location, can walk and bicycle on routes that are safe, comfortable and convenient...

...because to be able to walk and bike safely makes health, learning, communities, and independence better for all of us.

1/09/20 Attendees (Please note this list reflects those who's name appeared or introduced themselves.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Kelly Corbin, MnDOT | Ellen Pillsbury, MDH |
| Dave Cowen, MnDOT | Tom (Vann Associates) |
| Dan Edgerton (Vann Associates) | Ali Mueller |
| Jeremy Vann | Karen N. |
| Michelle Keifer | Megan Severson (Grand Rapids SRTS Coord) |
| Megan Severson (Grand Rapids SRTS Coord) | Sarah Stewart (St Paul Public Schools) |
| Joanne Judge Dietz | Sierra Saunders |
| Dani Gardner – Rochester SRTS Coord | Kari Kolling Anderson (Gage |
| Elementary School) | |
| Michelle Keifer, Bike MN | Jessica Seide |
| Karen Nitzkowski – Partnership 4 Health | Tina Moen |
| Luke Ewald | Katie Kitowski |
| Carmen | Andrea Orst |
| Alison Dudek | Amanda Lien |
| Will Wlizlo (Richfield Public Schools) | Tracy |
| Russel Habermann | Joanne Moze (Blue Cross) |
| Janet Bush | Wayne Hurley |

Maggie
Josh
Cindy
David Peterson
Rkuehl
jebor003

Sara
Jon Inkster
Patrick Hollister
Haley Miskowiec
jlezer



AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Gage Elementary Walking School Bus
- MN SRTS Strategic Plan Follow Up
- MnDOT Update
- Announcements

Kari Kolling Anderson, Gage Community Schools Site Facilitator
kakolling-an@rochester.k12.mn.us

Dani Gardner, Safe Routes To School Coordinator
dagardner@isd535.org



Gage Elementary Walking School Bus

Rochester Public Schools

SRTS Network Webinar February 2020

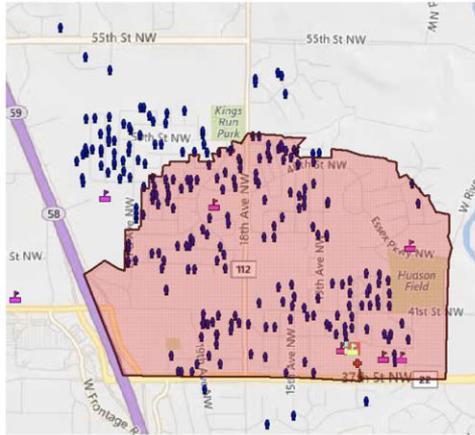
BikeMN also has a program to help volunteers get training for starting a walking school bus and bike train. <http://www.bikemn.org/education/walk-bike-fun/wbf-ambassadors-program>



Rochester Public Schools

- Southeast Minnesota
- Population of ~ 115,000
- 17 Elementary Schools, 4 Middle Schools, 3 High Schools, and 1 Alternative Learning Center
- About 18,200 students in the district

GAGE ELEMENTARY



- 547 students neighborhood school
- 199 students Spanish immersion program
- 45% of all students in walk/bike zone



Full Service Community Schools

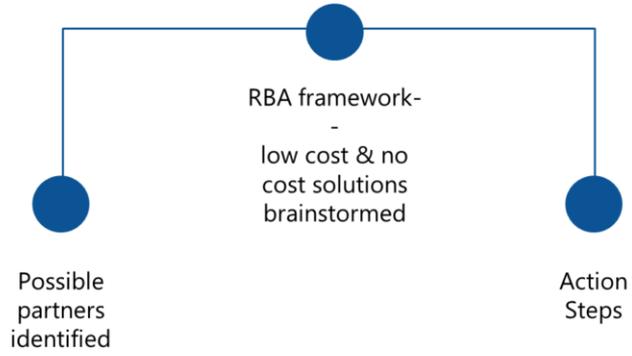
- "Community schools are public schools that partner with families and community organizations to provide well-rounded educational opportunities and supports for students' school success," (Community Schools Playbook).
- Community School Leadership Team (30% school staff, 30% parents, 30% community partners)
- Leadership team studies school data, trends, provides guidance and ideas
- Attendance study using Results-Based Accountability (RBA) framework

What are the barriers?

- Parent and student interviews
- Safety
 - (busy roads, "stranger danger," weather, distance, isolation, young students)
- Route analysis
- Overall safety, ease of walking, visibility
- Attendance trend data over time



SOLUTIONS

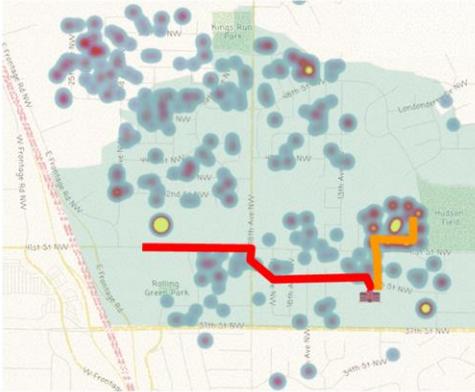


2018 - 2019 Attendance
Interventions

- Revised letters
- Phone calls home
- Short-term Walking
School Bus pilot
- School-wide awareness



WALKING SCHOOL BUS PILOT



- Two routes identified; furthest distance pursued for pilot study
- Letters and emails sent to families in the designated apartment complex
- Two days per week from late December through March
- Results supported the creation of a full-time walking position

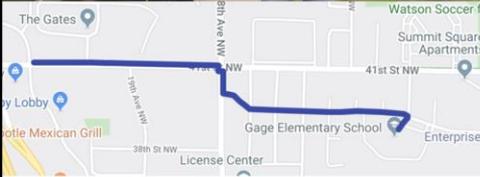
2019-2020 ATTENDANCE INTERVENTIONS

- Strengthened relationships with incoming kindergarten students & families
- Summer playground groups (twice a month)
- Monitoring data for school readiness (immunizations and pre-school screening)
- Full-time Walking School Bus coordinator/walker
- Increased communication with families about attendance
- Weekly attendance team meetings (twice a month last year)
- Home visits
- Revised letters outlining average days missed vs. individual student's absences
- Attendance focus groups spring 2019
- School-wide emphasis on culture, climate, and relationships
- Safe Routes to School grant/coordinator

WALKING SCHOOL BUS



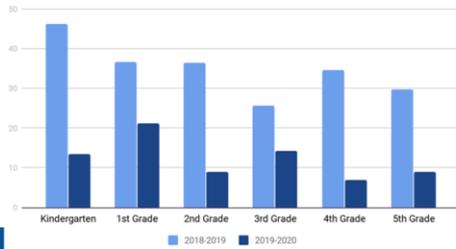
Sam Good
Walking School Bus Staff



- Grant from United Way
 - Paraprofessional to walk students from The Gates before and after school (total of hour per day M-F)
- Communication with families living within The Gates Apartments
- Supplies donated from local businesses
- Supplies from SHIP grant



Percentage of Gage Students Chronic Absent (Aug-Dec)



Impact

- Chronic absences reduced, on average, by 20%
- Increased staff and parent awareness about impacts on academic and social-emotional learning related to absences
- Increased school district and community awareness about walking and safe routes to school
- Community partnerships forming to support increased attendance

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Secure funding for Walking School Bus position(s)



Expand to other neighborhood s



Expand pilot to other schools

Bolster outreach to targeted housing areas through site visits about Walking School Bus and translated publications



Monitor data, interventions, and sustainability of practices





THANKS!

Do you have any questions?

Kari Kolling Anderson, Gage Community Schools Site Facilitator
kakolling-an@rochester.k12.mn.us

Dani Gardner, Safe Routes To School Coordinator
dagardner@isd535.org



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- Announcements

Minnesota SRTS Strategic Plan Update

SRTS Network Call
February 13, 2020

Minnesota Safe Routes to School



Please complete the survey:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/mnsrts-strategicplan

Agenda

- Project Overview and Update
- SRTS Program Administration
- Group Discussion

Minnesota Safe Routes to School





MINNESOTANS VALUE...

that all students have the opportunity to walk and bicycle no matter their race, ethnicity, income level, age, ability, or geographic location.

the health, academic, community, environmental, and independence-building benefits of walking and bicycling.

safe walking and bicycling routes that are maintained for use in all four seasons.

working together to make walking and bicycling an easy choice for students.

transportation and land use policies, programs, and plans that encourage close proximity of schools, residences, and other youth-friendly destinations.

Minneso

SAFE
ROUTES
TO SCHOOL

January Call Summary

- Vision and Values
 - Generally work well
 - Specific suggestions around health, equity, school siting
- Opportunities and Challenges
 - Local capacity
 - Social norms that prioritize driving
 - Perception of infrastructure cost
 - Keeping the champions involved
 - Parents are too busy to shift habits

Minnesota Safe Routes to School



SRTS Coordination

- Think about how you interact/coordinate with MnDOT or other agencies as you implement SRTS...
- What works well? What parts of the program work best for you?
- What is most challenging? What slows you down?
- What ideas do you have for improvements?

Minnesota Safe Routes to School





Minnesota Safe Routes to School





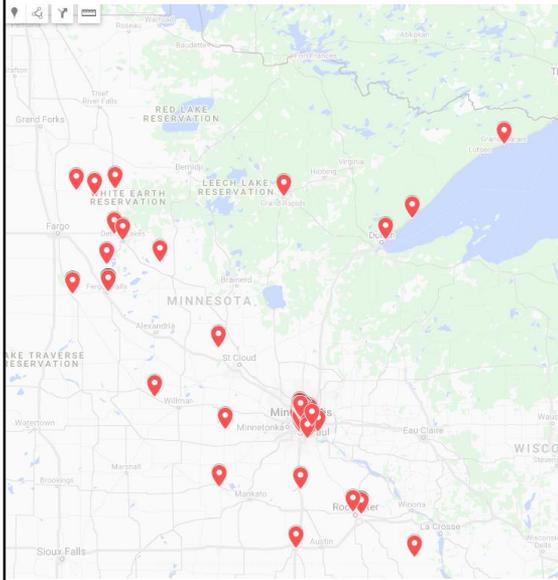
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SRTS Program Updates

Winter Walk to School Day



Winter Walk to School Day



WALK/BIKE TO SCHOOL DATES:

~~OCTOBER 2ND, 2019~~

~~FEBRUARY 5TH, 2020~~

MAY 6TH, 2020

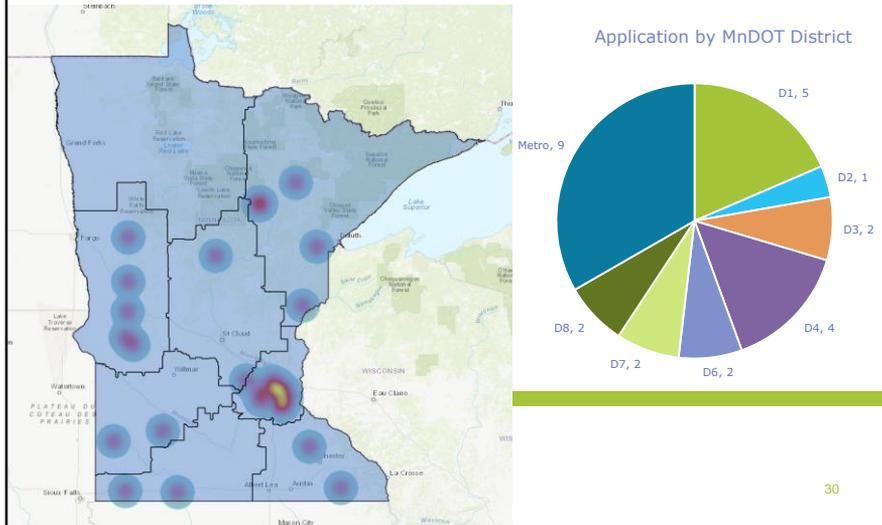
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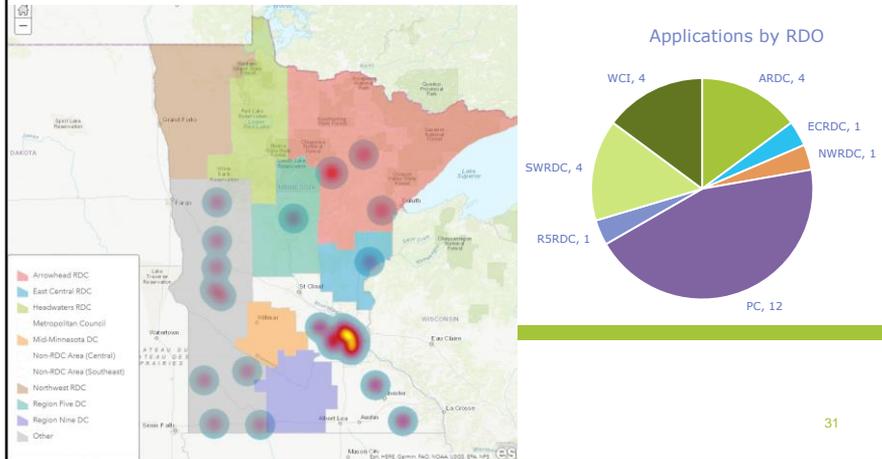
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Walk to School Day coming up,

Planning Assistance Solicitation by MnDOT District

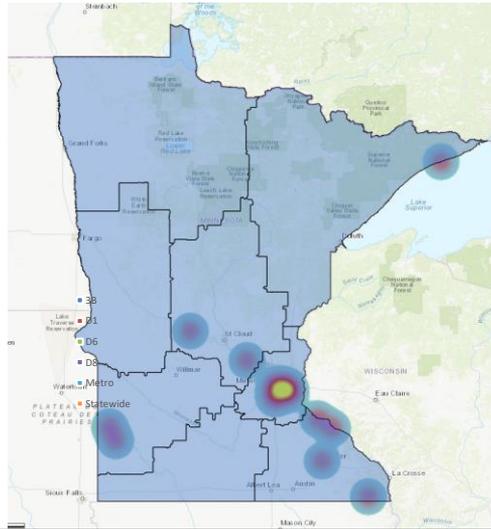
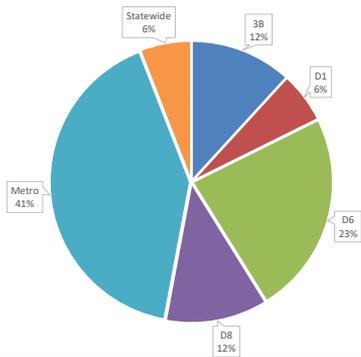


Planning Assistance Solicitation by RDO



Boost Grant Applications

- 17 Applications
- ~\$325,000 in requests
- ~\$140,000 in available funds
- Decisions late February/early March



Engineering Studies

- Selected 15 locations for studies
 - Bemidji
 - Brainerd
 - Cloquet
 - Grand Marais
 - Edina, Two Harbors
 - Lakeville
 - Laq qui Parle
 - Mahnomon
 - Monticello
 - North Branch
 - Red Wing
 - Richfield
 - St Paul
 - Kerkhoven-Merdock
- Working on scopes and schedule for studies now



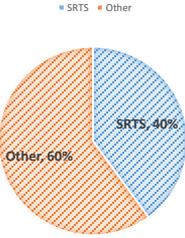
2/13/2020

mndot.gov

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TAP Solicitation

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES APPLICATIONS STATEWIDE





<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/demonstration-ta.html>

Safe Routes to School Demonstration Project Technical Assistance

Now open - application due Feb. 14

Safe Routes to School Demonstration Project Technical Assistance will support communities with existing Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans, or other comprehensive SRTS approaches, in undertaking the process to plan, design and implement a SRTS demonstration project in their community.

Safe Routes to School Meet Up
Tuesday April 14, 2020
Willmar, MN



Register Today!

SafeRoutesMN2020.eventbrite.com

SafeRoutesMN2020.eventbrite.com

Other updates!



Bicycle Facility Design Manual

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/bike/bicycle-facility-design-manual.html>



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Announcements

- [SRTS Academy Application](#) – To host a Spring workshop, application deadline March 1, 2020
- **Walk! Bike! Fun! Ambassador [Training](#) Maintenance [Trainings](#)**
- **[Phone](#) an Expert!**
- **Mini Adaptive Trainings**, reach out directly to Michelle Kiefer via email at michelle@bikemn.org.

SRTS Academy info:

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/contact/training_request.html

BikeMN and WBF Technical Assistance. <http://www.bikemn.org/education/walk-bike-fun/request-technical-assistance>

At anytime, please email Michelle and ask about a school re: WBF trained teachers.
michelle@bikemn.org



2020 MEETINGS

~~January 9~~

~~February 13~~

March 12

April – Meet Up April 14

May 14

June 11

July 9

August 13

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

Call Time: 10:00 – 11:00AM



THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

MONTH

January 9, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- SRTS Strategic Plan
- Demonstration Project Funding

MONTH

February 13, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- Walking School Bus: Innovation in Rochester

MONTH

March 12, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child
- Winter Walk To School Day Recap

To join the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Network,
email centercommunications@bluecrossmn.com



THANK YOU!



THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

MONTH

April 11, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- Cancelled in lieu of SRTS Meet Up April 14

MONTH

May 14, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- Understanding How School Speed Zones Happen

MONTH

June 11, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC

- TBD

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THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

MONTH
July 9, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD

MONTH
August 13, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD

MONTH
September 10, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD.

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THE MINNESOTA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL NETWORK...

MONTH
October 8, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD

MONTH
November 12, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD

MONTH
December 10, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

TOPIC
• TBD

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