

TRANSPORTATION - IDLING

Background

The Division believes that, in light of the evidence that exhaust emissions are a serious health risk to students, staff and community, bus drivers shall limit the amount of idling time. All staff are encouraged to limit the amount of idling time when driving a BRSD vehicle.

Procedures

1. Buses that are stored outside and equipped with Webasto heaters are to preheat the bus before starting the engine to eliminate the need for lengthy idling periods. It is noted that leaving the Webasto heater on while driving assists in warming the engine more quickly and maintaining better heat inside the bus.
2. When necessary to idle the bus, drivers are encouraged to keep idling time to a minimum.
3. In light of the possibility of diesel exhaust entering the school through open doors and vents, as well as the health risks to persons in the loading area, drivers are not to idle at schools during afternoon lineup unless extreme temperatures warrant it.
4. While operating in a municipality that has bylaws affecting idling of vehicles, employees shall adhere to any such local requirements.
5. While this administrative procedure is specific to school buses, all staff are encouraged to participate in reducing idle times on both board-owned and privately owned vehicles.