



Solano Transportation Authority
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 2016

Contact: Jayne Bauer

Marketing & Legislative Program Manager
jbauer@sta.ca.gov, 707-424-6075

***** MEDIA ADVISORY *** MEDIA ADVISORY *****

20th Anniversary of International Walk to School Day – Wed, October 5, 2016

SUISUN CITY, CA - The Solano Safe Routes to School Program is pleased to announce the participation of 54 Solano County schools in the 20th Anniversary of International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 5th. In 2015, over 10,000 students in 45 schools throughout Solano County skipped the traffic line and walked to school. The Program works to make this an ongoing trend countywide while supporting the health of the students.

“Getting children to walk to school, instead of being driven helps decrease traffic congestion around schools,” said Norm Richardson, Mayor of Rio Vista and Solano Transportation Authority Board Chair. “Walking is also a great way for children to get more exercise and with fewer cars around schools, safety and air quality is improved, as well.”

Supportive school staff and parent involvement is crucial. Volunteers are always needed to supervise children walking along safe routes in groups. Motorists need to slow down near schools and always be alert.

“Research shows that active kids learn better,” according to Jay Speck, Solano County Superintendent of Schools. “Kids who walk arrive to school alert and ready to learn; a win-win for kids and teachers alike.”

International Walk to School Day began in England in 1994 as a way to urge students to get out of cars and on their feet. Now, it’s observed in 40 nations around the world and millions of participants including Solano County schools will be walking this day to support this event.

To see if your school is participating and for more information about the Solano Safe Routes to School Program, visit: www.solanosr2s.ca.gov.

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SOLANO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Safe Routes to School (SR2S) in Solano County is a program of the Solano Transportation Authority (STA). Education and encouragement events are conducted in partnership with Solano County Public Health. The program was launched in 2008, with an aim to increase the number of students that walk, bike, rideshare or take transit to and from school and supports these activities with educational events throughout the year. There are substantial benefits to increasing active transportation to and from school including improving students’ health and well-being plus reducing both air pollution and traffic congestion.

Solano Safe Routes to School
Lloyd Nadal
Program Administrator



707-399-3222
lnadal@sta.ca.gov
www.solanosr2s.ca.gov