

# SOUTHERN COLUMBIA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: SCHOOL BUS IDLING

ADOPTED: November 20, 2006

REVISED:

810.3. SCHOOL BUS IDLING	
1. Purpose	<p>The Southern Columbia Area School District shall eliminate all unnecessary idling by school buses and school vehicles, thereby reducing exposure of school children, staff, and the community to exhaust fumes, and to reduce consumption of transportation fuels.</p> <p>Exhaust gases pose a health risk to children, bus drivers, and the general community. Unnecessary idling increases exposure to exhaust gases, wastes financial resources increasing the operating expenses of the school district, and ultimately increases the demand for petroleum imports.</p>
2. Authority	<p>This policy applies to the operation of all district-owned and/or contracted vehicles.</p> <p>The Board establishes that the district shall enforce this policy through administrative directives to all employees and through conditions of contracts for transportation service providers.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall direct the Transportation Supervisor to annually notify staff and contractors of the provisions of this policy.</p> <p>The Transportation Supervisor shall be responsible for enforcement of this policy, shall be responsible to coordinate communications between the district and approved contractors, and shall report operations to the Superintendent.</p>
4. Guidelines	<p>Upon arrival at schools and school loading zones, drivers will turn off engines and not restart until time to depart. Should weather conditions make idling a vehicle necessary, idling will be minimized by running the vehicle not more than five (5) minutes in any fifteen (15) minute time span. Note: while waiting in school loading zones drivers will leave the ignition on “accessory” to allow radio communications.</p> <p>Bus drivers must plan to minimize pre-trip warm-up idling to the manufacturer’s recommended three (3) to five (5) minutes above forty (40) degrees F, and not more than fifteen (15) minutes below this temperature.</p>

810.3. SCHOOL BUS IDLING - Pg. 2

Bus drivers must not idle a bus while waiting for students on field trips, athletic events, or any trips off school property.

Service and delivery vehicles shall not idle in school zones or within one hundred (100) feet of any school building. In instances that idling is necessary to facilitate delivery or to perform services, these activities will be scheduled before or after normal school hours.

Cold Weather Provisions

When outside temperatures are between forty (40) degrees F and minus five (-05) degrees F, idling practices will follow the guidelines in the policy not to exceed five (5) minutes in any fifteen (15) minute time span.

When outside temperatures are below minus five (-05) degrees F, there is no restriction on idling to provide for heating the vehicle.