



## Safe Routes to School Program Overview

Nancy Nichols and Brian Kurotsuchi, City of Fort Collins



# Overarching Goal

Get more kids biking, walking & rolling to school for

**HEALTH ~ ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ~ CLIMATE / ENVIRONMENT**



*Leshar Middle School, National Bike to School Day*



- **Primary audience —**  
K-12 students (5 to 17 years old)  
~25,000
- **Estimated # of kids biking/walking to school in 2019 (pre-pandemic)**  
27% (up from 23% in 2018)
- **Students receiving formal bike-ped safety education annually**  
6,000 to 7,000
- **Core staffing**  
2 City staff, 24 contractual instructors (Bike Fort Collins), 12 crossing guards

*Olander Elementary, Kindergarten Bike Rodeo*





*Irish Elementary, bike-ped education in PE*

- **Bike Fort Collins**  
Safe Routes instructional team
- **Various City departments/programs**  
FC Moves Department, Active Modes Program, Bicycle Ambassador Program, Police Services, Engineering, Traffic Operations, Streets, Recreation, Parks, Natural Areas, Sustainability Services
- **Poudre School District**  
Superintendent, central administration, wellness program, school principals, teachers, parents, crossing guards
- **Advocacy and other organizations**  
Safe Kids Larimer County, Overland Mountain Bike Association, Colorado State University, Colorado Department of Transportation, FoCo Fondo, health organizations, businesses

## The 6 Es:

- Education
- Encouragement
- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Evaluation
- Equity



*Walk & Wheel Skills Hub*



## Priorities for 2022

- Teach 6,000 to 7,000 students via "School Rotation Schedule"
- Perform safety checks and/or repairs on 3,000 to 4,000 student bikes
- Lead community celebrations of International Walk to School Day & National Bike to School Day
- Expand promotional programs such as Bike/Walk-to-School Challenge
- After-school biking/walking/scooter clubs
- Summer bike camps



*After-school  
scooter club, PSD  
Global Academy*



## Fort Collins School Rotation Schedule: SRTS Bike-Ped Safety Education

Rotation focuses on K-12 public schools in Fort Collins; assistance also provided (by request) to private K-12 schools and public/private preschools as well as youth organizations.

### 2021/2024/2027

ELEMENTARY

**PSD K-5\*** (11 schools, 5,200 students)

**SPRING**

Harris  
Riffenburgh  
Shepardson

**FALL**

Bacon  
Bennett  
Dunn

### 2022/2025/2028

**PSD K-5\*** (11 schools, 4,800 students)

**SPRING**

Irish  
O'Dea  
Putnam

**FALL**

Johnson  
Laurel  
Tavelli

### 2023/2026/2029

**PSD K-5\*** (11 schools, 4,900 students)

**SPRING**

Bauder  
Lopez  
McGraw

**FALL**

Beattie  
Linton  
Zach

\*KRUSE, OLANDER, POLARIS, TRAUT and WERNER are not on regular rotation due to scheduling issues or because school staff lead bike-ped activities outside normal curriculum, such as bike field trips (included in student totals above).

MIDDLE SCHOOL

**EVERY YEAR**

**PSD Middle School** (7 schools, 1,700 students)

Blevins

Boltz

Kinard

Lincoln

Preston

Webber

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM** focuses on one grade level, normally sixth (seventh at Kinard). **LESHER** receives ongoing bicycle programming every year.

HIGH SCHOOL

**EVERY YEAR**

**PSD High School** (4 schools, ~500 students)

Fort Collins

Fossil Ridge

Poudre

Rocky Mountain

**HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM** focuses on "Bike PE" curriculum during Adventure PE classes and incorporates "Bicycle Friendly Driver" certification.

**TOTAL: 7,400**

**TOTAL: 7,000**

**TOTAL: 7,100**





*Sampling of equipment used in school programming*

- **All Students:** How roadway and trail systems work, what traffic signs mean, which side of the street to bike on, common traffic hazards, etc.
- **Younger students (5 to 7 years old):** Primarily walking skills, with introduction to bike skills
- **Older elementary-school students (8 to 11 years old):** Primarily bike skills
- **Middle-school and high-school students (12 to 17 years old):** Bike skills, with practice rides on roadway and trail systems
- **High-school students:** Motorist skills (Bicycle Friendly Driver course)





*How we transport equipment to schools*





## Serving All Children

- **Students with special needs** participate in all programming through use of adaptive equipment
- **Supplemental programming** for schools with students from lower-income families
- **Reduced fees and full scholarships** at summer bike camps
- **Free bike repairs** for kids and parents in low-income neighborhoods

*Student riding with her father on bike field trip*



# Our vision for the future...

**50 percent of K-12 students will bike, walk,  
scooter, or skateboard to school!**



*Olander Elementary, fifth-grade bike field trip*