

Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

Tuesday, October 17th 2023 @6:30pm in NS Staff Room

Call to Order: 6:33pm by Sarah

WELCOME & Introductions: Lindsay O, Meggen H, Brandee B, Tisha E, Maria D, Nicole H, Silvana C, Monnu B, Tyler W, Nolan J, Debra B, Keely B, Mallory F, Steve W, Aaron F, Lauren H, Megan L, Karma VS, Brette T, Sarah H.

Any Additions: Staff Appreciation

Approval of AGENDA/Second: Silvana C and Monnu B

Approval of MINUTES/Second:

- Motion to amend the Sept 2023 minutes to be divided into AGM, and then close and Open meeting to Nicholas Sheran School Council. Motion to amend to have the roles portion added to the AGM portion of the minutes. This is to adhere to our bylaw of 7 mtgs and 1 AGM. – motion by Sarah H. – all in favour

Grade level sharing:

- Grade 1. Ms Boschee, Mrs. Bingham and Mr Nolan Jacobs Ms Finney shared resource they've been using called McCracken phonics program. It builds nicely and hits on a lot of skills. Hagerty is another program that goes through different skills and builds up. Goes through skills that builds to reading and writing. They also have been working on breaking down words into sounds.
- Number books – writing numbers 1-10, place value higher numbers ie 20 is 2 tens and 0 ones. really helping the kids understanding what numbers mean.
- Basic colours – they can print the word, colour it and draw 3 things that would be that colour. Science and language arts connection when they label the things they draw.

Administration Report: Aaron F and Stephen W

- Book Fair October 16 – 20. Thank you to parent volunteers, and to all families for supporting Mrs. Woods and her fundraising efforts through the Learning Commons! We appreciate you!
- Run for Reconciliation
 - 20% of the division total kilometers were from our school!
 - We tracked kilometers for two weeks...just like other schools in the division.
 - Week one: 1479.45 KMs
 - Week two: 3392.58 KMs
 - Total: 4872.03 KMs
- Terry Fox Run
 - Wonderful event and turn out.

- Thank you to Mr. Waldron for taking the time to bring the drone! We look forward to using those photos and videos in new ways. Mr. Fitchett is working to share.
- \$731.86 was raised
- Music Fundraiser – Domino’s Pizza
 - Thank you to Domino’s West for the support; we had 40 orders using the code and Mr. Sheedy raised \$200.00 for his music program.
 - Donation from Mitten’s Piano Studio, paid for our instrument repairs – thank you for this donation!
 - Music updates: Handbell programs and choir programs are in full swing!
- Successful Heap the Jeep
 - We were able to donate to the Lethbridge Food Bank. We appreciate Mrs. Britton, Mrs. Morden, our support staff, and some students from Nikki’s Den who toured our school each morning to gather donations and count the food for us!
 - We did not meet similar goals as in past years, but we suspect this is an indication of need in our own community. We are grateful for all the support we gathered.
 - Over 620 items donated to the food bank. That doesn’t include donations made to the breakfast club.
- Schedule for the week of October 23 – 27 & PTIs
 - Parent/Teacher Interview times for kindergarten have now been combined into one spot. They are all available under "Mrs. Peacock's Kindergarten". If you are not looking to book a formal interview, but you would like to come to the school, we will also have less formal Meet the Teacher / Open Classroom time on Thursday, October 26th from 6:00-7:00pm that is open to parents of any Kindergarten program at our school. There are interviews available during the following times: Tuesday, October 24th from 8:45AM-4:00PM; Thursday, October 26th from 1:00PM-5:00PM & Friday, October 27th from 8:45AM-12:00PM. If you need assistance to book a time, please contact Mrs. Miklos in our front office by email, or by calling the school at 403-381-1244. Mrs. Miklos would be happy to help you. Thank you!
 - Grades 1-5 Interviews are on Thursday from 1:00pm – 8:00pm (last interview is at 7:45pm)
 - There is kindergarten on Monday, October 23rd only...there is full-day school on Monday the 23rd and Tuesday the 24th.
- Big Ideas for our PL Days coming up.
 - Teachers will be diving into topics like: Our school values; New curriculum and new resources; Assessment practices around new curriculum; and Planning for our Wellness Grant that we received from the school division for this school year!
- Take Me Outside Day – Changing to Thursday
 - There appears to be much better weather on Thursday, so we have changed the date of Take Me Outside Day

- Kindergarten Changes (Mrs. Fuji and Mrs. Peacock) & Kindergarten PTIs
 - Thank you to parents for their patience as we work through some emergent staffing. We are doing our best and we appreciate the support.
 - Mrs. Fuji has started a leave and will transition into her parental leave once baby arrives. Mrs. Peacock has taken over the two full-day kindergarten programs, and we are working with guest teachers and Human Resources to determine a good replacement for Mrs. Peacock in her AM kindergarten class. This person will eventually be replaced by Mrs. Danielle Murray when she returns from her own parent leave – we are thinking sometime in February.
- EA staffing updates (additional allocations and staffing)
 - Due to our need for student supports, and responding to student needs and complexity, we are adding some EA positions and time allocations to our staffing.
- Numeracy Night
 - Our staff numeracy committee is meeting this week to determine directions for our numeracy planning, including our November Family Numeracy Night. Tentatively booked for the evening of Thursday, November 23rd.
- Halloween Plans
 - Students will come to school in costumes on Tuesday, October 31st. there will be a Halloween parade. Parents are not invited to watch.
 - Kindergarten (Tu/Th and AM) will wear costumes this day.
 - Kindergarten (M/W) will wear costumes on November 1st. there will be a mini Halloween parade for the Kinders this day.
 - Reminders about appropriate costumes and classroom-specific plans for the day will be sent out by teachers, and/or posted to our Facebook and emailed from the office. Thank you for making these activities safe and comfortable for all students in the building!
- Breakfast Program Updates
 - \$250.00 donation from a community member.
 - Some families have been dropping off donations, and we did get several food donations during the time of Heap the Jeep that made a difference to our program.
 - Mrs. Vallee is doing a fantastic job, and our core teacher volunteers are greeting the students every morning.
 - We are tracking statistics in the effort to gather data to apply for additional funding.
- Digital Wellness Night
 - Information night for parents
 - Please see the attached flyer
 - November 15th, 7-8pm, Yates Memorial Theatre (scan QR code to register)
- Important October Dates:
 - Assembly October 18th. Open to parents of students receiving an award.
 - Book Fair is happening NOW: October 16-20

- We are now in our music program schedule: M – Gr. 4 handbells; Tu – Gr. 5 handbells; W – Jr. Choir; Th – Senior Choir
- October 18: 1st Values / Recognition Assembly of the year
- October 19: Take me Outside Day (changed due to weather)
- October 30: Picture Retake Day
- October 31: Halloween Day & Classroom Costume Parades (Including Tu/Th Kindergarten & AM Kindergarten Halloween Parades)
- November 1: M/W Kindergarten Halloween Costume Day & Parade
- November 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
- November 9, 10:30am: Remembrance Day Assembly; something new this year is that we are inviting our resident friends from Age Care Columbia to join us at the school. Mr. Sheedy is organizing this for us.
- November 13 – No School
- November 13 – 17 is Rock your Mocs Week
- November 23 – Grade 5 Skating at 2:30pm
- November 24 – Report Cards Open on the Portal
- November 29 – Kids Choir 2023 at 7pm at Southminster United Church

Treasurer Report: Sarah H. read the report in Lacey's absence. **See attached.**

Financial requests:

- Mr. Sheedy had asked for \$525 for supplies for a new set of granit blocks – we put in \$525
- Another request was for t shirts for students to wear at outdoor events. quotes were approx. \$3000. It was decided that wasn't a priority this year.
- Motion for approval of the budget as proposed – motion from Tisha – all in favour

Events: Numeracy Night in Nov. Family Literacy Night in Feb.

District Council Report:

- ask a membership we're going to go forward with
- Talked about digital wellness night.
- They talked about the number of grants schools can get. Lots of them are towards the end of the year. Monnu will follow up with them near the end of the school year.
- Monthly community conversation nights with one of the trustees. You can go and talk with a trustee once a month.
- There are a lot of committees ie: wellness committee, poverty committee, privacy committee.

Trustee Report: n/a

Executive Council Report: n/a

Old Business:

- Nicole motioned to remove Tisha Elford and Karma van Schaik from having signing authority on the Nicholas Sheran School Council Bank Account and to add Lindsay O'Brien and Sarah Head on for signing authority. Tyler second.
- Silvana motioned to require 2 signers on each cheque. Maria second.

New Business:

- We're trying to stagger fundraising and hot lunches to be at different times in the month as per parent requests for having some before and after the 20th of the month so that families can use child tax credit money. We're also aware of months where there is significant times off or months where families typically have a lot of expenses.
- We've got kernels going on right now and Bootsma next month.
- Looking at a bigger variety of places to get hot lunches
- Fundraising ideas – chocolates, bacon
- West Side Boundary changes
 - Lethbridge School Division will be hosting two opportunities for in-person engagement with the West Lethbridge Elementary School Community. Events are scheduled for November 8th and November 22nd at Chinook High School. You do need to register in advance before October 31st. The link to register is [here](#).
 - The city busses don't run at this time. Aaron will send an email to the school to figure out if we can work something out so people can have transportation if needed.
 - New boundaries should be announced November 2024
- School Travel Planning
 - Discuss the possibility of engaging in the School Travel Planning process with the City of Lethbridge. Primary objective is to increase the active and transit travel modes to and from school as well as improving school road safety. **Info Attached**
 - One thing we can do is establish a school travel planning committee. Things we could do are traffic counts, a lighted crosswalk. Aaron will let the City of Lethbridge know that we want to establish the committee.

Staff Appreciation

- We did 3 gummy bear packs on a label that said "this year would be un bearable without you" cost was less than \$48.

Motion to Adjourn/Second: motion by Tisha at 7:59



PARENT NIGHT




**QUESTION
SUBMISSION
AVAILABLE ON THE
LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL
DIVISION WEBSITE**



**Yates Memorial
Theatre**

November 15th 2023

7:00pm-8:00pm



**HOSTED BY THE
LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL
DIVISION IN
COLLABORATION
WITH HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
DIVISION**



THE TRUTH ABOUT YOUTH: CULTIVATING DIGITAL WELLNESS

The Lethbridge School Division and Holy Spirit Catholic School Division would like to warmly welcome parents, students, and staff to an evening of insight and collaboration. A collection of panel members with multidisciplinary viewpoints will be offering perspectives about youth and digital wellness. This event is intended to deliver guidance and support for families and individuals who are navigating parenting in the digital age. The panel members will be answering questions that have been submitted by parents (using the attached QR Code), and delivering their professional insights.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DIGITAL WELLNESS: [CLICK HERE](#)

	Budget	Actual
Revenue		
School Board Grant (to be used for travel expenses for conference province wide) - Possibly vote and use towards school spending	\$250.00	
Expenditures		
Events		
Numeracy Night	\$250.00	
Literacy Night	\$250.00	
Color run - Giant freezies (cut in half)	\$100.00	
Dance-a-thon	\$200.00	
School use		
Big spend's	\$1,530.85	
Mr. Sheedy - Music supplies (mallets, binderstands, polishing supplies) \$525, New set of granite blocks \$534.43	\$525.00	
Mrs. Chudobiak - Taller wigggle seats \$76.95/each, repaint/add new asphalt games \$???	\$230.85	
Mrs. Wood - Moveable double-sided white board x2 \$600	\$600.00	
Mrs. Niven - Bluetooth doc. Camera	\$175.00	
Staff Appreciation		
Admin day (5@\$50/ea, possibly a G/C)	\$250.00	
Teacher appreciation day	\$225.00	
Classroom Allotments (use towards class materials, rewards, field trips, etc.)		
\$250/classroom (18 rooms)	\$4,500.00	
Nikki's Den	\$250.00	
Mr. Sheedy (Music room)	\$250.00	
Discretionary Fund for school Requests	\$1,500.00	
Monthly bank fees: 12 months @ \$3.00	\$36.00	
Balance from previous year	\$10,737.93	
Grants	\$250.00	
Total Budget YTD	\$9,341.85	
Teacher Big Asks	\$1,530.85	
Actual Budget Total YTD	\$9,105.85	
Actual Total YTD	\$ -	
Difference Total	\$10,701.93	
Difference Total Using Budget	\$1,396.08	



Let's work together to re-ignite a culture of walking and wheeling to school

»» The Problem

You've probably noticed...fewer students are walking/wheeling for the school journey

Across Canada, we are facing a modern-day challenge. Car culture is taking over and fewer kids are using active modes of transportation (i.e., walking, cycling, rollerblading, scooting) for their school journey. When students are driven to school instead of walking or wheeling, they miss the opportunity for much-needed physical activity, fresh air and quality interaction

with parents, caregivers and friends; and driving increases school zone congestion, which in turn makes conditions less safe for those who do walk or wheel, and adds to air pollution. Also, school staff frequently waste valuable time dealing with traffic issues and complaints.

»» A Solution

School Travel Planning is a proven approach for addressing this problem

School Travel Planning (STP) is a process that involves diverse stakeholders at the school and regional levels in the development and implementation of a

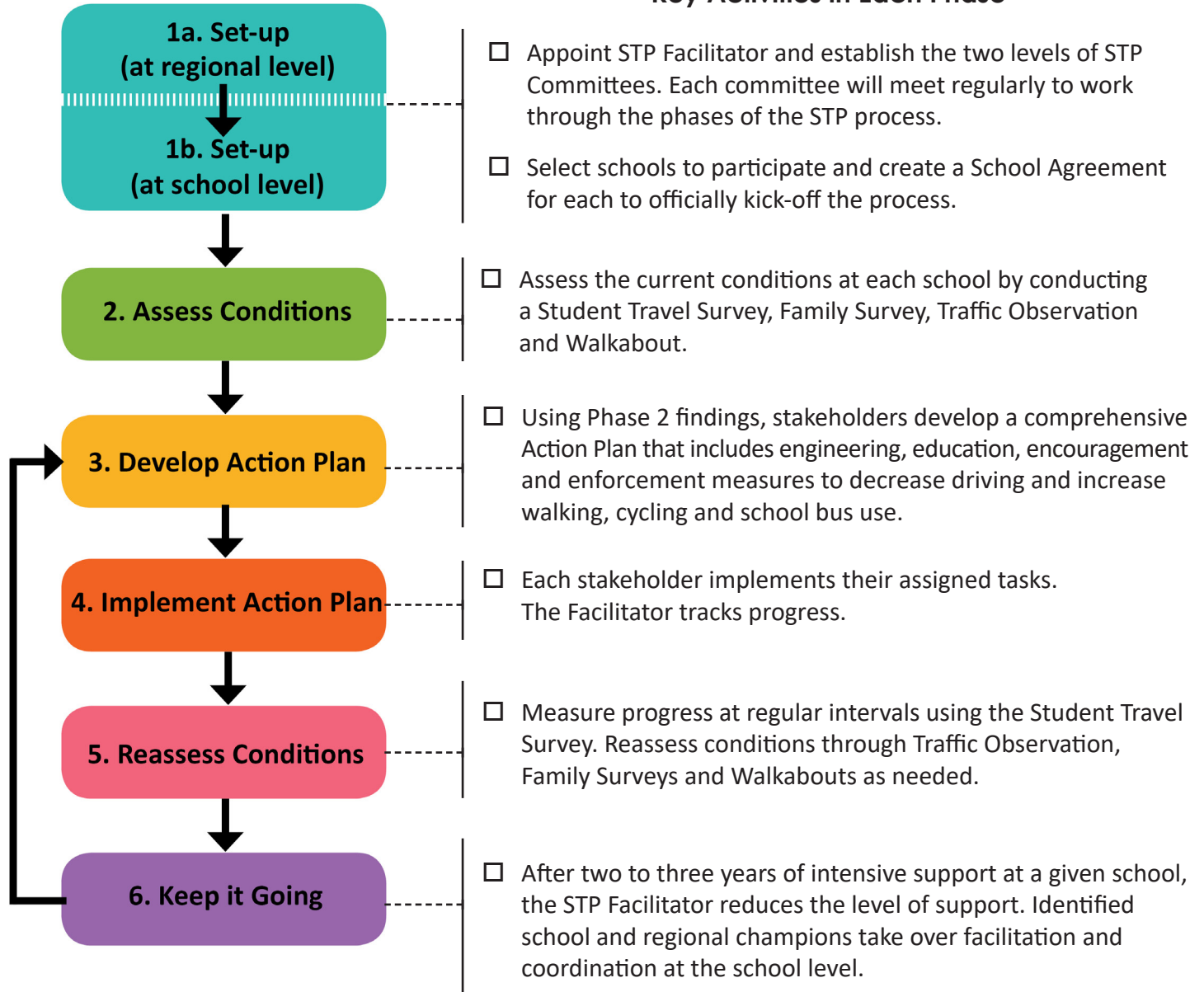
comprehensive plan to get more students using active transportation. To date, individual STP schools have experienced shifts toward active travel of over 20%!

How it Works

The STP Process

School Travel Planning flows through a six-phase process (see diagram below) over an initial period of two to three years. The process is guided and supported by an STP Facilitator who brings everyone together, coordinates activities, and uses the **STP Toolkit** to compile a School Travel Plan.

Key Activities in Each Phase

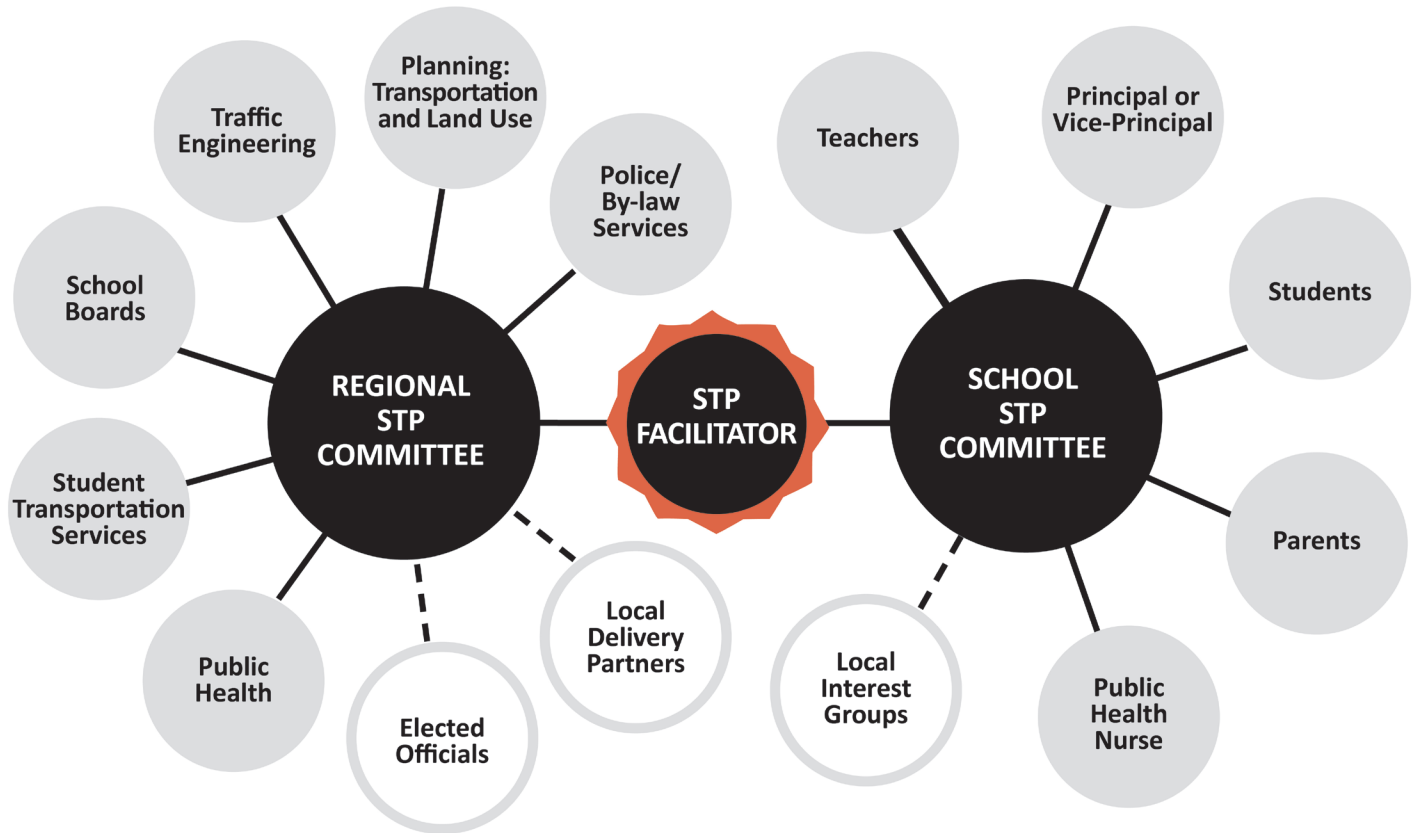


Examples of STP Actions Schools Have Implemented Include:

- Classroom learning activities about active transportation
- Improved signage and crosswalks
- New bike racks and cycling skills training
- Walking and cycling route maps
- Park and walk campaigns
- Fun walking events
- Ticketing campaigns
- Traffic-calming in school zones
- Winter maintenance of active travel routes

Who is Involved

It takes a diverse group of community-wide stakeholders to solve the problems related to traffic congestion at/near schools, and change families' travel habits. Schools cannot do this on their own. One of the keys to STP success is involvement of stakeholders at both the school and regional/municipal levels. This is accomplished through establishing two STP committees, as shown below.



The diagram above shows the key stakeholders for each committee in solid grey circles. The stakeholders shown in white circles are helpful but not essential. The exact stakeholders that are essential will vary by community, e.g., not all schools have an assigned public health nurse.

Two Levels of Committees

Regional STP Committee: A steering committee is established at the regional or municipal level, depending on the make-up of local government and how the school boards are organized in the area. This committee is referred to as the Regional STP Committee in the STP toolkit but the actual name used may differ by community. It is a high-level group of stakeholders that contributes to the STP process for multiple schools within a geographic region. It may be set up as a standalone committee or as part of an existing group responsible for active transportation and/or traffic safety.

School STP Committee: One School STP Committee is established per school. This committee meets regularly throughout school year to help with goal setting, data collection, and action planning and implementation. Sometimes this committee is set up as part of an existing health or environmental committee within a school. A group of neighbouring schools can work together to coordinate strategies and save time.

So Many Benefits!



Healthier Children

- Active school travel helps school-aged children meet the recommendation to accumulate at least 60 minutes per day of moderate to vigorous physical activity, which is associated with improved physical and mental health.



Safer School Zones

- Reducing traffic volumes creates safer school zones and saves school staff time. Improving walking and cycling routes to school also enhances the safety, connectivity, and quality of life for the community as a whole.



Less Traffic and Pollution

- Reducing the number of children being driven to school reduces greenhouse gas emissions and particulate air pollution around the school; this improves air quality and reduces associated risks of lung and cardiovascular diseases.



Better Academic Performance

- Increased physical activity specifically associated with the school journey increases alertness and attention during the school day.
- Physical activity supports healthy brain development, which can lead to improved learning and academic outcomes.

Positive Feedback

"I feel proud of the work we accomplished. Families were eager to change their habits and my students ended the year with a sense of pride and a greater understanding of what it really means to be healthy and environmentally friendly...I have also noticed less traffic out my window this year. I think our message brought positive change to our community."

Elizabeth Kim, grade 4/5 teacher



Get Started Now

For more information about School Travel Planning, visit www.ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/school-travel-planning.

School Travel Planning –Elementary Schools in Lethbridge

The City of Lethbridge, in association with the Staff, Students, and Parents of Elementary Schools are embarking on developing the school travel plans (STP). The primary objective (to be refined further) is to increase the active and transit travel modes to and from the school along with improving school road safety. Active school travel refers to transportation using human-powered modes such as walking, cycling, scootering, skateboarding and rollerblading.

Process:

1. Setup
 - i. Establish a STP Committee: Potential members: School Principal/Staff, Students, Community Association, AMA, Police, City Project Committee
 - ii. Establish Vision, Goals, and Objectives
 - iii. Set a timeline for project development

2. Existing Conditions
 - i. Data on school enrolment and place of residence of students
 - ii. Review of the existing school site
 - iii. Student, Parents, and Community Questionnaire Surveys
 - iv. Prepare base maps; road network, pedestrian and cycling facilities, 5 min and 10 minutes' walk radius around the school
 - v. Traffic counts and observations
 - vi. Existing site traffic and pedestrian circulation
 - vii. Walkabout to look for walkability/cycling and identify issues and concerns in the area road network
 - viii. Analysis of the data and preparing existing conditions report

3. Develop Action Plan
 - i. Identify gaps, issues, and opportunities
 - ii. Prepare actions to address specific issues identified above
 - iii. Prepare Safe routes to school maps for walking and cycling
 - iv. Explore school crossing guard program

4. Evaluation
 - i. Collect follow-up data on progress
 - ii. Inform the STP Committee on progress'
 - iii. Celebrate Success!