

# Walking Bus Parental Consent Form

## Purpose and Explanation of the Program

The Walking Bus is designed to get communities to work together to get children to school actively and safely. Children who participate walk to and from school in groups led by adult volunteers.

Children from \_\_\_\_\_ will be walking on  
(Name of School)

\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Route or Name(s) of Streets) (Times of Day)

## Program Objectives

The goals of the Walking Bus include the following:

- Increase daily physical activity for children and adults in the neighborhood.
- Increase safety for pedestrians in the neighborhood.
- Reduce traffic in and around the neighborhood and school.
- Decrease crime when more people are outside keeping an eye on their neighborhood.
- Increase community cohesion by helping neighbors get to know one another.

## Potential Risks

The Walking Bus is intended to reduce the risk of injury to children as they travel to and from school through the use of adult supervision. However, there are risks associated with child pedestrians. These specific risks include injury as a result of motor vehicle crashes, a fall, overexertion, or carelessness. While we will use common sense precautions and best practice guidelines, parents remain responsible for getting their children to and from school safely; the walking bus cannot guarantee the safety or security of the walking bus and is not taking responsibility for those travels by the walking bus.

## Walking Bus Guidelines

After Consent please take some time to review these walking bus safety guidelines with your child. Parents are welcome and encouraged to walk along with their children.

- Follow the walking bus leaders' instructions.
- Obey all traffic signals and traffic signs.
- Be on time.

- Walk on the sidewalk.
- Be respectful.
- Watch for cars and trucks at every driveway, alley and intersection on your walk to school. Look for drivers in parked cars. They may be getting ready to move.
- Walking bus adult volunteers should be the first in and last out of an intersection.
- Wait at intersections for the walking bus leader to direct you to cross a street.
- Look left, right and left again when crossing a street.
- Dress for the weather.
- Report problems or bullying on the walk to school to your parents, walking adult volunteers and your teacher.

**Voluntary Consent**

I certify that I have read this consent form or it has been read to me and that I understand the program and its risks. A copy of this consent form will be given to me. By signing this consent form, I agree to allow my child to participate in this program.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Child's Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Media Release:**

I give my permission for (child's name) \_\_\_\_\_ to be filmed/photographed/interviewed by the media during the walking bus and for the walking bus to use my child's photograph, work or voice for promotional and educational purposes.

Signature of Child's Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_