

NLSchools refers to all public K-12 English schools and school-related facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education, Education Operations Branch and all employees working therein providing services and supports to such schools, including those who work in the areas of school facilities, student transportation, program implementation, student services, and procurement.

Policy Name

Vehicle Idling

Policy Statement

The Department of Education shall make every effort to eliminate all unnecessary idling of vehicles and exposure to exhaust system emissions on school and school-related property.

Background

The Department of Education recognizes the importance of ensuring the health, safety and welfare of its workers, students and others at or near the workplace. The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure also recognizes the importance of providing guidance and direction on the use of government and school-purpose vehicles and idling. The exhaust from idling vehicles (including school buses) poses an unnecessary health risk for children, drivers, employees and the community at large. Vehicle idling impairs air quality and is an inefficient use of financial resources.

Scope

This policy applies to all vehicles while on school and school-related property within NLSchools including, but not limited to, the following vehicles: Parent, employee, student, vendor, and contractor, private, commercial. It also applies to all government fleet vehicles, regardless of location.

Definitions

Idling

The continuous running of a vehicle's combustion engine while in a parked state.

Vehicles

All motorized modes of transportation including school buses, cars, trucks,

vans, motorcycles, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles.

School-Purpose Vehicles

All school buses and private vehicles arranged to provide student transportation service.

School Facilities Division

Refers to the School Facilities Division of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Policy Directives

1. The School Facilities Division, Transportation and Infrastructure, shall deploy “Idle Free” signage posted in a visible location on school or school-related property to alert drivers that engines should be turned off when a vehicle is on the property.
2. All Division Directors who have staff or contracted individuals/entities accessing school or school-related property on a regular basis are to communicate idle free policy requirements and to ensure they are aware of this policy.
3. School Administrators shall ensure all parents/guardians/students receive notice of this policy at the beginning of each school year.