

Vista Unified School Board
No-Idling Resolution for Schools
Resolution 19-38

WHEREAS, idling of motor vehicles contributes to global warming and is linked to asthma, decreased lung function, cardiac disease, cancer, and other serious health problems; and

WHEREAS, asthma is the most common chronic illness among children, the largest cause of school absences, and is the third leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15 years; and

WHEREAS, one minute of idling puts more carbon monoxide into the air than smoking 3 packs of cigarettes, as stated in California ACR-160 Motor Vehicle Idling: Children; ¹ and

WHEREAS, children's lungs are still developing and are especially at risk of developing health problems when they are exposed to elevated levels of pollutants. Monitoring at schools has shown higher levels of benzene, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and other air toxics during the afternoon hour coinciding with parents picking up their children; and

WHEREAS, emissions from gasoline and diesel powered vehicles contribute a multitude of potentially harmful pollutants that can trigger an asthma attack and other ailments; ² and

WHEREAS, vehicle idling occurs on school drop off and pick up locations and parking lots where children are more highly exposed to air pollutant emissions; and

WHEREAS, emissions from gasoline and diesel powered vehicles contribute significantly to air pollution, including greenhouse gases, ozone formation, and fine particulates; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children's exposure to diesel exhaust particles should be decreased and that idling of diesel vehicles in places where children live and congregate should be minimized to protect their health; and

WHEREAS, diesel vehicles emit numerous carcinogenic chemicals, including benzene and formaldehyde, and; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that all vehicle emissions account for as many as half of all cancers attributed to outdoor air pollution; and

WHEREAS, we can avoid producing unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions and exposure to air toxics by reducing or eliminating wasteful vehicle idling; and

WHEREAS, a car idling for 10 minutes uses as much fuel as it takes to travel 5 miles and uses more than 27 gallons of fuel a year; and

WHEREAS, for every gallon of gasoline used, the average car produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the largest contributor to greenhouse climate change, with one-third of greenhouse gas emissions coming from the transportation sector; ³ and

WHEREAS, idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel and emits more pollutants than turning a warm engine off and on again; ⁴ and idling is not generally beneficial to a vehicle's engine because it wears engine parts; and

WHEREAS, at least 27 other states and the District of Columbia have laws imposing restrictions on idling at schools; now, therefore, be it

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vista Schoolboard and Vista Unified School District:

Supports the adoption of Idle Free Zones on school grounds, including a pledge by school bus drivers, school employees and parents to:

- Turn off vehicles when parents are parked and waiting to pick up and drop off children.
- Staff and delivery drivers to turn off vehicles when parked.
- Installing Idle Free Zone signs at school drop-off and pick-up locations.
- Adopt goal for the use of zero emission buses for all bus routes depending on funding availability.
- Maintain existing buses properly to reduce exhaust.
- Complete school bus driver training on eliminating idling.
- Conduct and/or support broad education of school employees, parents, students and the public about the health, environmental and economic impacts of idling and ways to reduce idling.
- Develop and enforce regulations to allow only limited idling as needed for health and safety, such as to operate equipment to accommodate students or vehicle occupants with disabilities.
- Study the feasibility of relocating school building air intake systems away from parking areas when practical and shall consider other measures to reduce intake of vehicle exhaust where relocating intake systems is not feasible.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be shared with PTA organizations, VTA, CSEA, and other school related organizations.

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, Linda Kimble, Secretary of the Board, hereby certify as follows:

The foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board duly and regularly held at the regular meeting place thereof on the 9th day of May, 2019, of which meeting all of the members of said had due notice and at which a majority thereof were present; and at said meeting said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

An agenda of said meeting was posted at least 72 hours before said meeting at 1234 Arcadia Avenue, Vista, California, a location freely accessible to members of the public, and a brief general description of said resolution appeared on said agenda.

I have carefully compared the same with the original minutes of said meeting on file and of record in my office; the foregoing resolution is a full, true and correct copy of the original resolution adopted at said meeting and entered in said minutes; and said resolution has not been amended, modified or rescinded since the date of its adoption, and the same is now in full force and effect.

Dated May 9, 2019

Secretary of the Board
