# Bellevue SchoolPool 2019-2020 Program Overview for Elementary Schools (K-5)



# What is Bellevue SchoolPool?

<u>Bellevue SchoolPool</u>, a collaboration between City of Bellevue, King County Metro, and Bellevue School District, is a program that works with schools, families, and students to encourage carpooling, walking, biking, and riding the bus to and from school, rather than driving or being chauffeured alone.

The SchoolPool team assists participating schools in running **two one-month long challenges during the school year**, one in the fall and one in the spring. The SchoolPool team also provides ridematching resources and assistance in forming carpools, walk pools ("walking school buses"), bike pools ("bike trains") or arranging bus buddies for school buses or public transit.

Monetary incentives are available to schools that agree to engage in the program as "Partner Schools." School incentives are subject to available funding.

## SchoolPool Goals

- Reduce congestion at drop-off and pick-up times and zones around schools.
- Inform school families and students of alternative travel options and resources available to support them.
- Improve health and well-being among students.
- Reduce the environmental impact of vehicle emissions and pollution and improve the air quality around schools.

## How SchoolPool works

### Prior to each challenge:

- The SchoolPool team delivers to each partner school promotional materials, paper trip log calendars, and student and staff incentives, and provides stock communications for emails, newsletters, social media, etc.
- **Schools** display the promotional materials, distribute the trip log calendars to each student, and the student and staff incentives.

### During each challenge:

- **Schools** conduct outreach to students, parents, and staff to publicize the SchoolPool program and promote walking, biking, busing, and carpooling.
- **Students** conduct at least one (1) non-drive-alone trip, log their non-drive-alone trip(s) in their trip log calendars, and return the trip log calendars to their schools.

For SchoolPool partner schools that participate in **Walk To School Day in October**, walking trips as part of the event count towards the one-trip requirement to receive **School Incentives**.

• **The SchoolPool team** assists schools with questions and with forming carpools, walking and biking groups, and arranging bus buddies.

### Following each challenge:

- Schools collect the trip log calendars from the students.
- The SchoolPool team picks up the calendars from the schools and mails the school incentives.

# SchoolPool Incentives

### School Incentives

School incentives are available in the form of **direct monetary payments** with the **maximum of \$2,000 per challenge**, which includes up to **\$1,500 for 75% calendar returned**, and up to **\$500 for four (4) communication attempts** with families. **School incentives are subject to available funding**.

### Staff incentives

SchoolPool provides incentives for school staff most-actively involved in the SchoolPool challenges in the form of gift cards or SchoolPool promotional items such as coffee mugs, phone/tablet/PC accessories, etc.

#### Student Incentives

SchoolPool provides giveaways for each student before or during each SchoolPool challenge. Examples include 3D bookmarks, seed paper bookmarks, bike lights, flashlights, magnets, lenticular stickers, etc.

# Schools' role and how to get involved

For schools to become SchoolPool Partner Schools, principals must complete a SchoolPool application form, committing to do the following:

- **Designate a school point of contact** to coordinate the SchoolPool activities and to communicate with the SchoolPool team, school staff, students, and families.
- **Conduct outreach** to publicize the SchoolPool program and promote walking, biking, busing, and carpooling to students and families. **Communication channels** include but are not limited to direct emails, parent newsletters, school webpage news, school social media posts and backpack mails.
- Display the promotional materials provided by the SchoolPool team, including yard signs, posters, brochures, etc.
- Distribute and collect the trip log calendars.
- Distribute student and staff incentives.

## How the SchoolPool team will help

- Provide SchoolPool paper trip log calendar.
- Provide promotional materials for schools including yard signs, posters, brochures, etc.
- Provide stock communications for emails, newsletters, social media, etc.
- Translate SchoolPool materials upon request by the school.
- Supply resources and educational materials about walking, biking, carpooling, and using school buses/public transit.
- Work with interested schools to tailor the program to their needs.
- Assist schools interested in helping parents find carpool and bus matches, and set up walking or biking groups.
- Provide email and phone support ( <u>BellevueSchoolPool@bellevuewa.gov</u>, 425.452.2851) to schools and families.
- Provide school, staff and student incentives.











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