

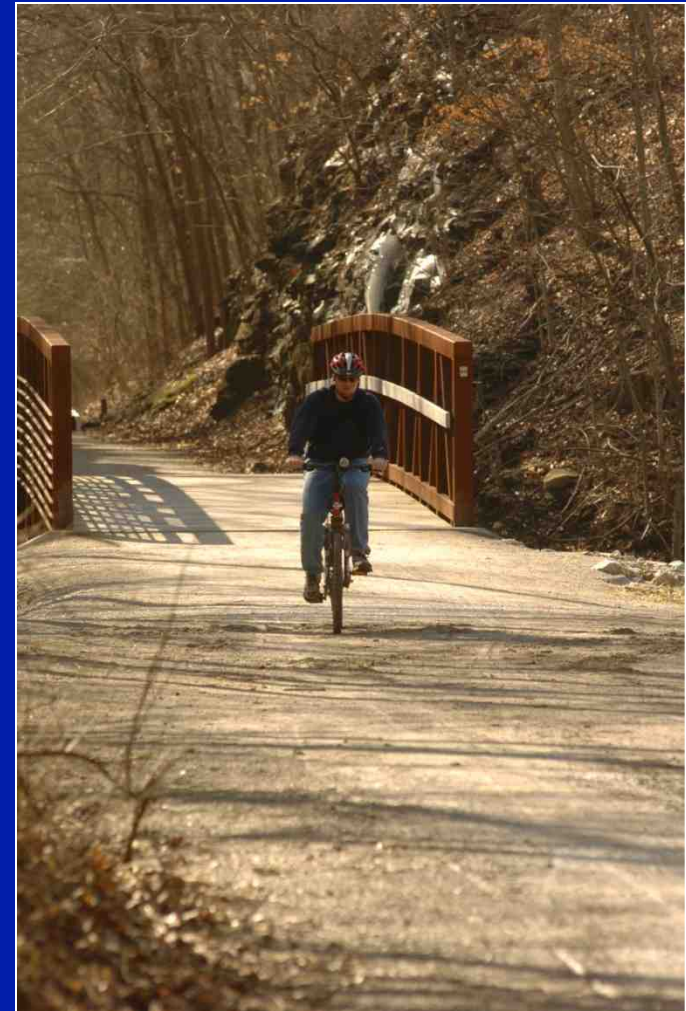
WALKING SCHOOL BUS



Piedmont Triad Regional Council - Robert Johnson

The PedNet Coalition

- Formed in April, 2000
- 7,000+ supporters in Columbia
- **Mission:** The Mission of the PedNet Coalition of Columbia, MO is to encourage active travel such as walking, bicycling, and rolling a wheelchair, and to promote the creation of a safe and attractive network of paths, trails and multi-modal streets that provides health, environmental, quality-of-life, and economic benefits to the community.
- **Tactics:** Advocacy, policy change, and programming
- **Information:** www.pednet.org



**In 1969, about 50% of
American children
walked to school**

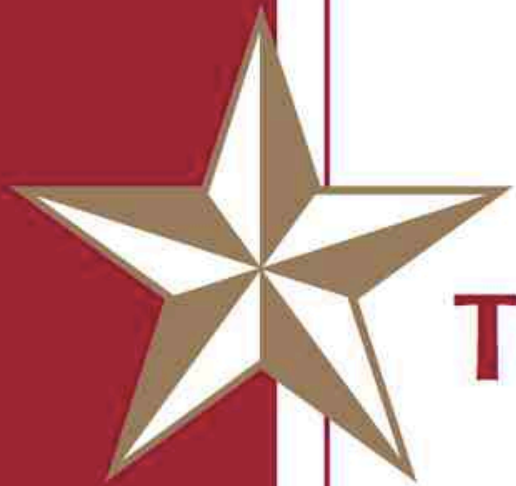


In 2001, ... just 15%.

Consequences

1. Health
2. Bussing Costs
3. Traffic Congestion





Too Fat to Fight

**Retired Military Leaders Want
Junk Food Out of America's Schools**

A Message from America's Retired Generals, Admirals and Civilian Military Leaders:

As retired Generals, Admirals, and other senior leaders of the United States Armed Forces, we know firsthand that national security must be America's top priority.

Our organization recently released a report citing Department of Defense data indicating that an alarming 75 percent of all young Americans 17 to 24 years of age are unable to join the military because they failed to graduate from high school, have criminal records, or are physically unfit.

Being overweight or obese turns out to be the leading medical reason why applicants fail to qualify for military service. Today, otherwise excellent recruit prospects, some of them with generations of sterling military service in their family history, are being turned away because they are just too overweight.

Bussing Costs

- 14.7 billion annual costs
- ~5% of average school budget



Traffic

- As walking to school has declined 50→15%, private automobile travel has increased
- As much as 20% of rush hour traffic
- Traffic Danger (self fulfilling prophecy)



Individual barriers to walking and bicycling to school

- Long distances 62%
- Traffic danger 30%
- Adverse weather 19%
- Fear of crime danger 12%

(CDC, 2005)

Walking School Bus



Variations

1. Staging Post Walking School Bus
2. Safe Routes to Bus Stops
3. Remote Drop Off Location



Evolution of PedNet's Program

- 2003-present: Walk-to-School Days
- Spring, 2005: Pilot WSB program
(4 routes, 30 children, parent-led)
- Spring, 2006: Formal WSB program
(12 routes, 120 children, volunteer-led)
- Spring, 2010: WSB at 11 schools
(40 routes, 450 children, 120 volunteers)

What People Should Know

- Paid WSB Coordinator
- School Based Liaisons

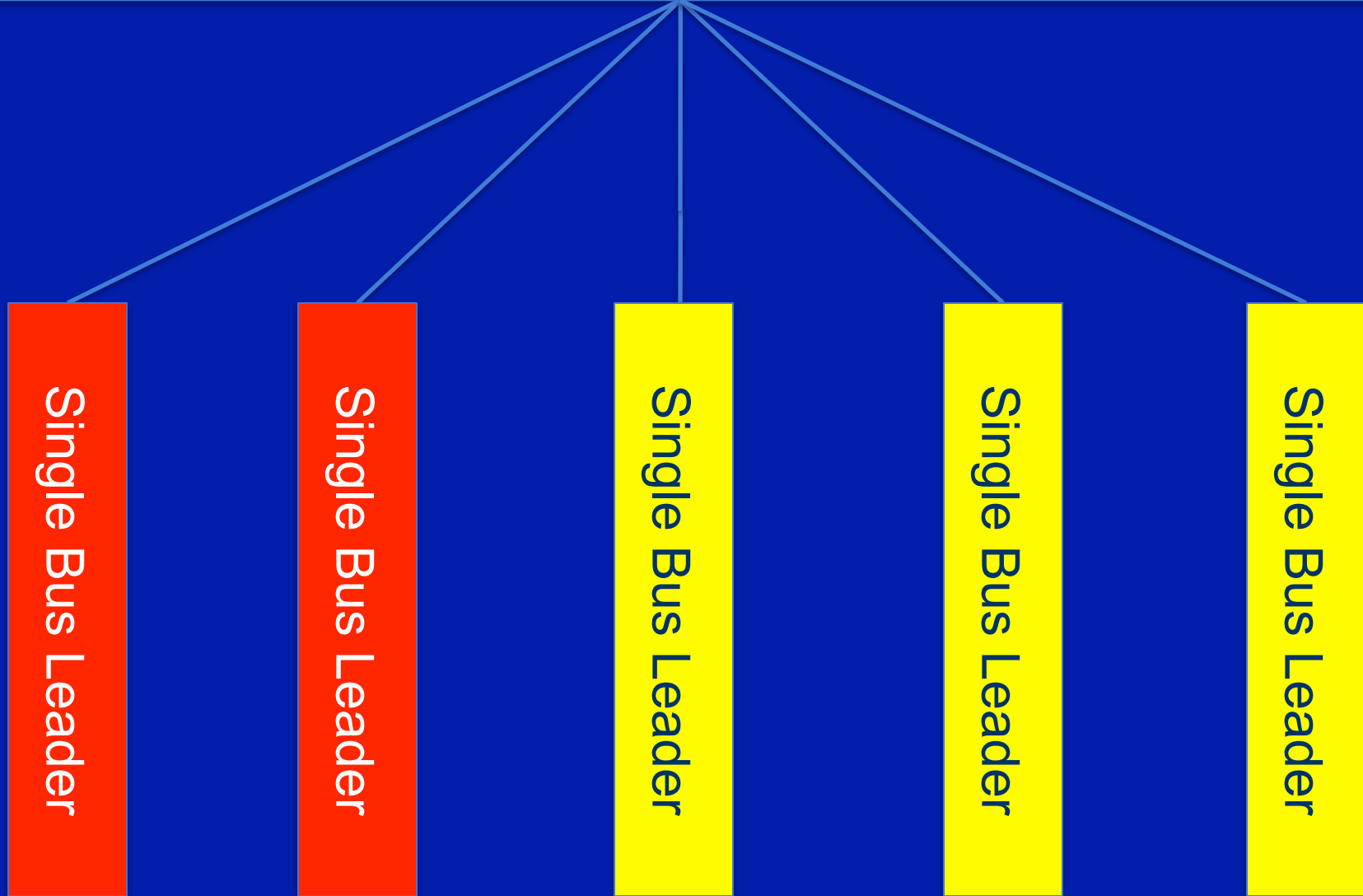


Responsibilities of Coordinator

- Market program, register families
- Recruit, train, and coordinate volunteers
- Evaluate, plan WSB routes



Walking School Bus Coordinator (All Programs)



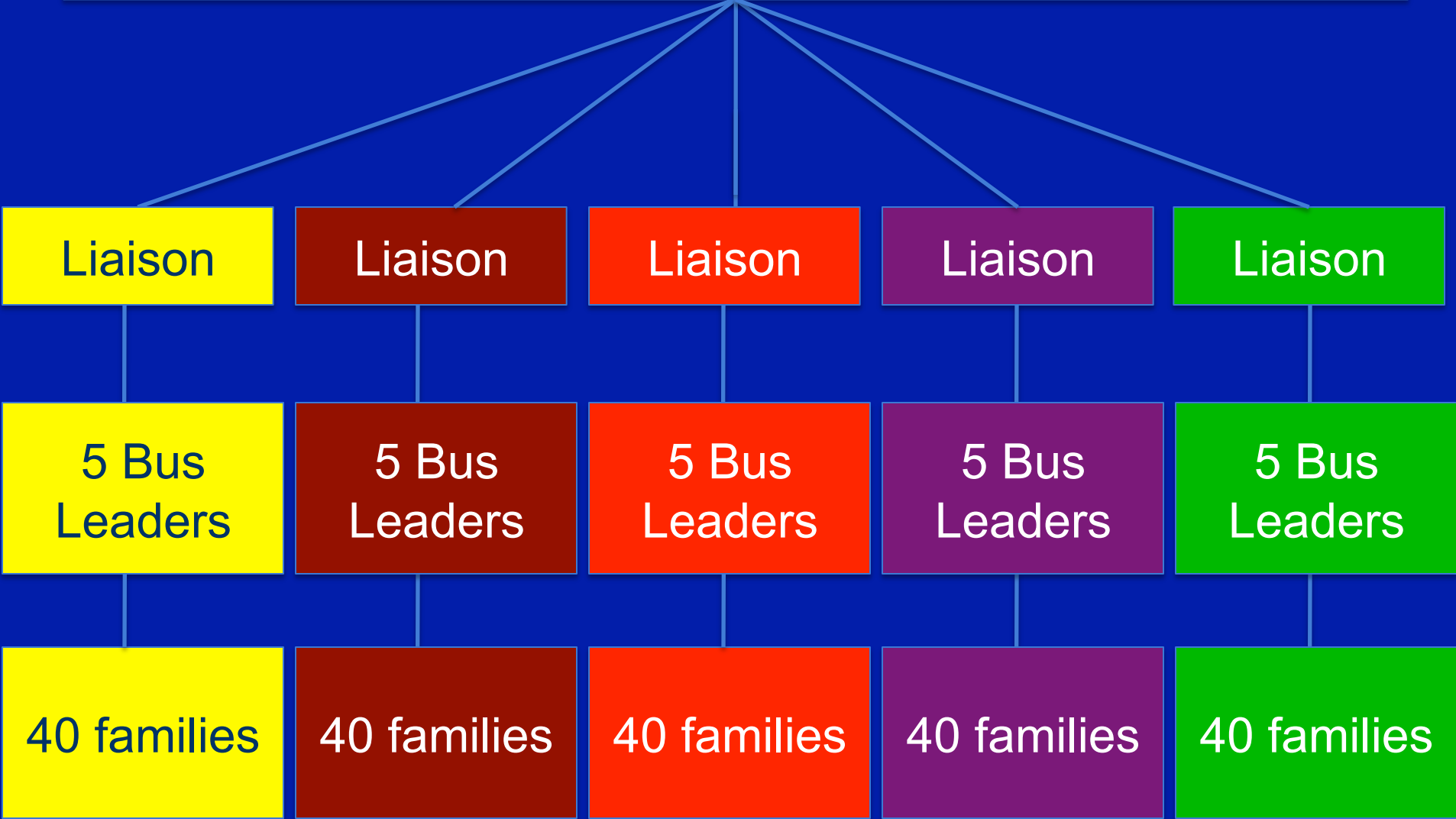
Responsibilities of School Based Liaison

- Be at the school when WSB arrives
- Discipline, call parents etc
- Day to day volunteer
- 3-5 hours per week



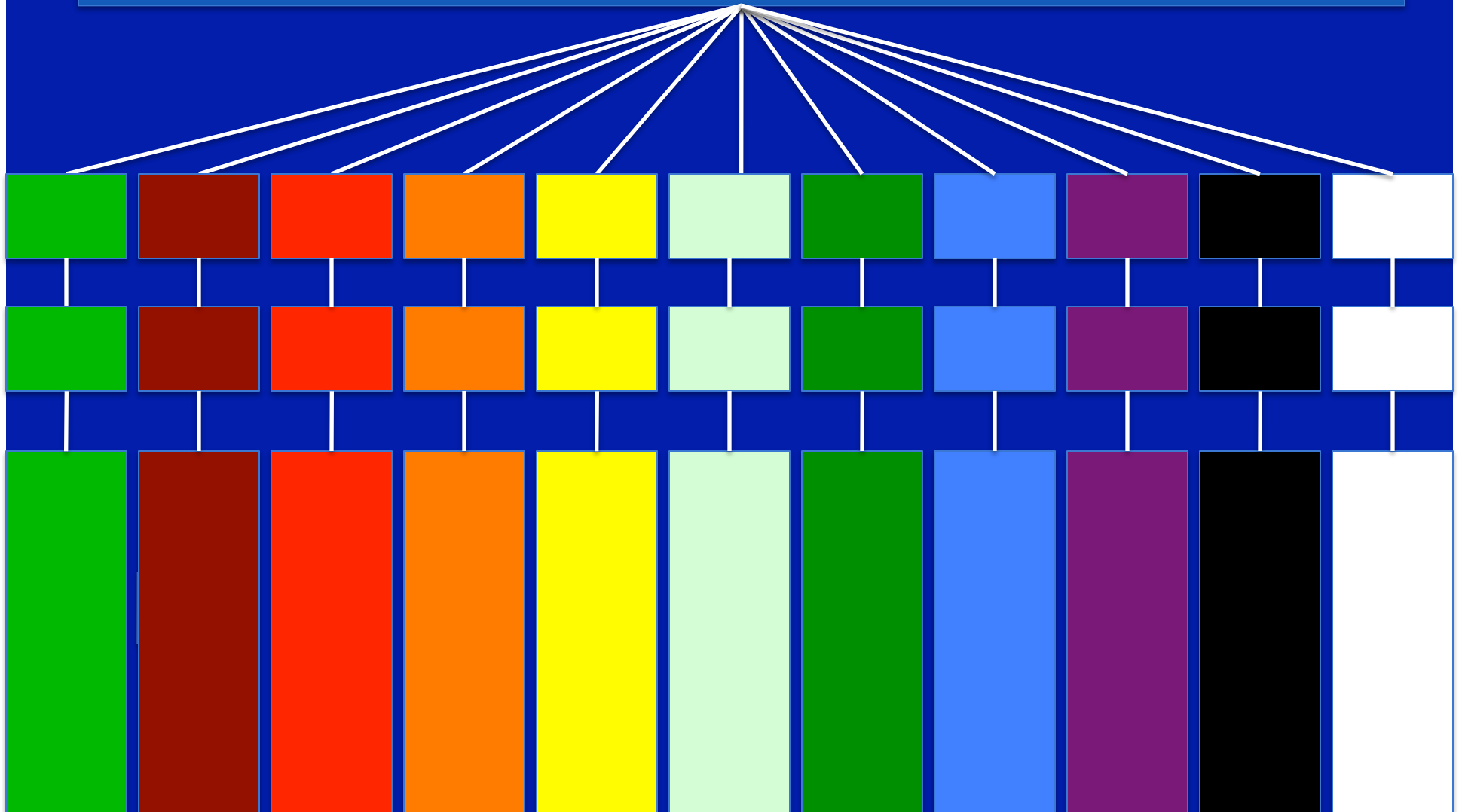
Communications (weather, volunteers, students)

Walking School Bus Coordinator (All Programs)



Communications (weather, volunteers, students)

Walking School Bus Coordinator (All Programs)



Walking School Bus Workshop



Community Specific Workshop

- Each attendee is a representative from a key community group.
- This ensures that every crucial organization is “bought in” to the WSB program.
- Allows for powerful conversations and planning to take place during workshop.

Walking School Bus Coordinator

Traffic Engineer

Administration from Elementary Level

Administration from District Level

Law Enforcement

Public Health Official

Workshop in the community beginning a WSB program

Typical Workshop Agenda

9:00 am: Welcome and Introductions

9:30 am: Safe Routes to School Concepts

10:00 am: Everything You Need to Know to Start Your
Own WSB Program

12:00 pm: Lunch

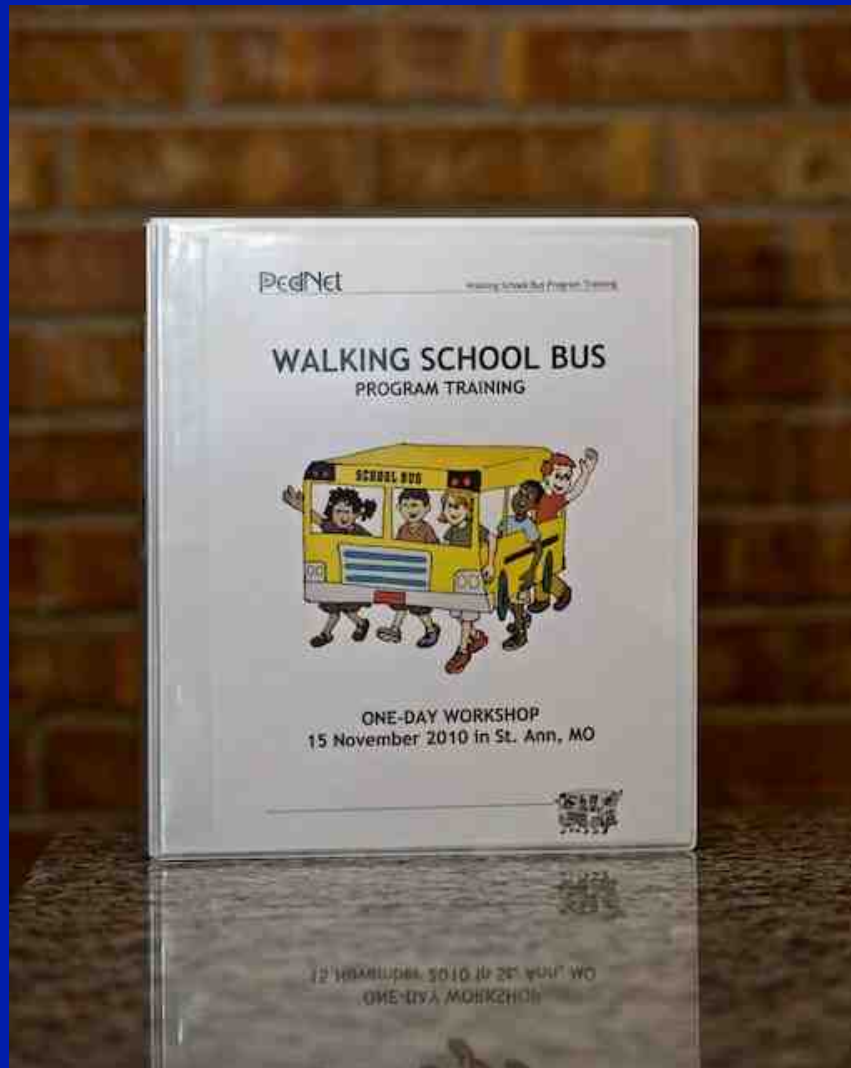
1:00 pm: Neighborhood Walkability Audit

2:00 pm: Interactive Route-Planning Exercise

3:30 pm: Final Review/Q&A

4:00 pm: Close

Every Attendee Receives a Student Manual In both hard copy and electronic format



October 6, 2010:
Walk-to-School Day Special Event
Your School Name Goes Here

WALKING SCHOOL BUS
SAFETY



State of Iowa
NON-LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORD CHECK REQUEST
FORM A

ACCOUNT NUMBER DHS

TO: Iowa Division of Criminal
Investigation
Bureau of Identification, 1st Floor

FROM: _____

School Letterhead

Sponsor, elected official, or local celebrity
Street address
City, state, zip

1 September, 2010

Re: International Walk to School Day: 6 October, 2010

Dear _____,

We are writing to invite you to support our first ever International Walk to School Day on
Wednesday, October 6, 2010.

Walking to school is a fun and healthy way for kids to get regular exercise and prepare themselves for a

**WSB Volunteer Leader
Training and Orientation**



Name of Trainer
Date of Training

Technical Assistance

Each Workshop includes up to 6-hours of technical assistance

- Ongoing technical assistance from our WSB staff in Columbia
- Available to answer questions that arise anytime during the first year of their WSB program



Workshop Recap

- Up to 15 participants
- Each participant receives training manual (hardcopy and electronic)
- Includes ongoing technical assistance
- Assistance in knowing who to invite
- Should budget \$5,000 in grant application for training, mentoring and technical assistance.

Questions and Answers

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