



Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools

Healthy Kids, Safer Streets, Strong Communities

Dear School Leaders and Safe Routes to Schools Champions,

Another great year of Safe Routes to Schools programming is underway in Alameda County. With more than 180 schools registered for the program, our team has been busy providing students, parents and schools with engaging and informative bicycle and pedestrian safety events and education aimed at increasing traffic safety around our schools and encouraging active and shared travel to and from school. Please note registration is now open for our winter walking and rolling encouragement events (see details on the next page).

As we head into the holiday season, we want to thank you for your continued participation in the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools program and your commitment to healthy kids, safer streets and stronger communities. We wish you happy and safe holidays from the Safe Routes to Schools team!

Leslie Lara-Enriquez
Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program Manager

Meet the Safe Routes to Schools Team

Meet our team of highly-enthusiastic Safe Routes to Schools professionals who are committed to making our county safer and healthier for all students. [Find out](#) who's who in the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools program and meet the team members who can help you better navigate our multiple program offerings.

Announcements

America's Favorite Crossing Guard Contest

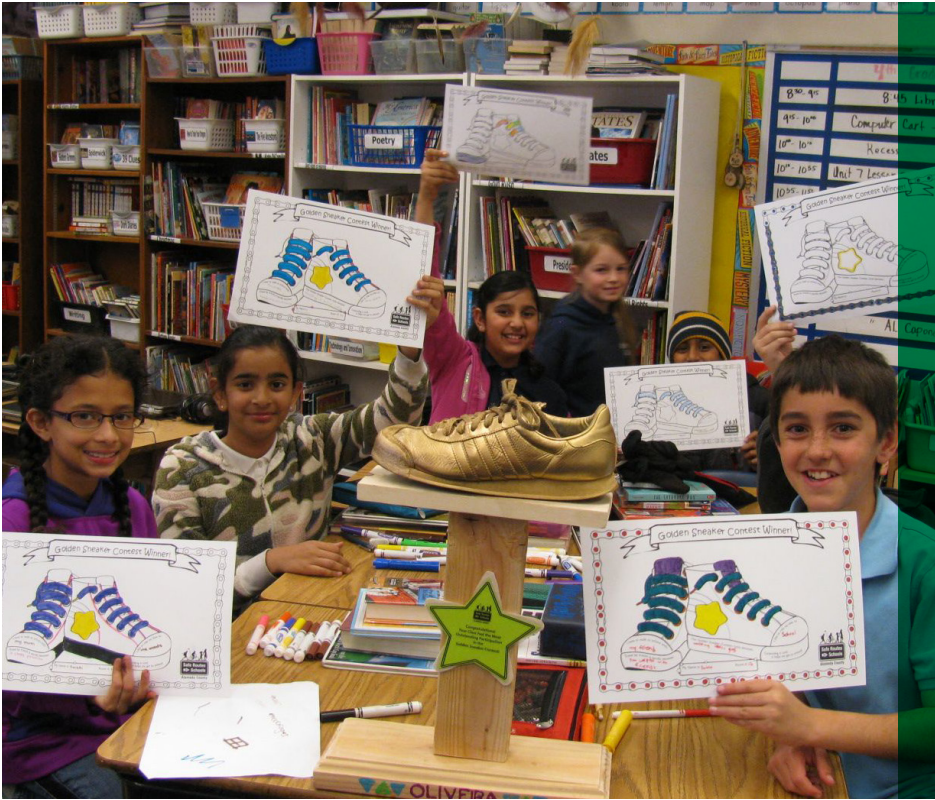
Nominate your favorite crossing guard for [America's Favorite Crossing Guard](#) contest sponsored by Safe Kids Worldwide.™ Crossing guards are an important part of any school community, helping to ensure the safety of students arriving and leaving school in any kind of weather. Nominations close **December 31, 2017**, with voting in January 2018. [Please let us know](#) if you submit a nomination, so we can help you spread the word and encourage voting.

2018 Youth for the Environment and Sustainability (YES) Conference

Teens aged 12-18 interested in protecting the environment are encouraged to [register now for the 2018 YES Conference](#), scheduled for February 24, 2018 at Laney College in Oakland. Registration is free. Consider [submitting a session proposal](#) by January 2, 2018 in one of five formats: 30-minute panel; 8-10-minute individual presentation, interactive activity, networking activity or a poster session. [Learn more.](#)



Participate in Our Winter Walking and Rolling Encouragement Events



Golden Sneaker Contest *for elementary and middle schools*

Registration is now open for the Golden Sneaker Contest, held from February 26 - March 9, 2018 at elementary and middle schools. During this fun event, students, classrooms and schools compete to see who can walk, roll or carpool their way to school the most. Winning classrooms can win Golden Sneaker trophies (made from shoes donated by our own Golden State Warriors!!), parties and other prizes! **Register here** and download all contest materials. **The last day to register is Friday, January 12, 2018.**

Cocoa for Carpools *for high schools*

Start planning your high school's Cocoa for Carpools event. Now through February 2018, you can use this fun high school event to encourage students, parents and the school community to carpool to school by incentivizing carpoolers with a hot cup of cocoa. **Contact your site coordinator** to get started today!





Program Spotlight

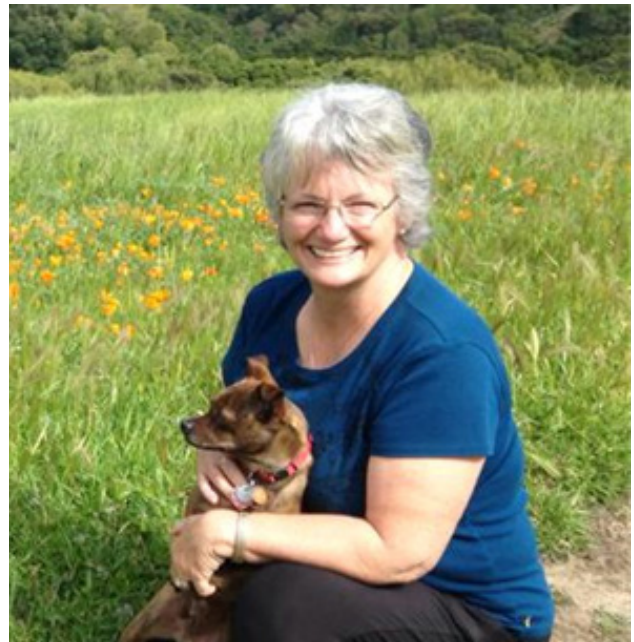
Step Up Crew: A Street Smart Concert

One of our newest additions to the Safe Routes to Schools repertoire, this middle school assembly program teaches students about safely walking and biking to school. The middle school show includes lessons that also teach students about riding public transit safely. With dancing, singing and outstanding comedy, you'll want to make sure to book this fun and engaging show for your middle school. [Book your assembly here.](#)

Champion Spotlight

Anne Aranda is a teacher champion at Colonial Acres Elementary School in Hayward. Her understanding of her school community helped our program blossom. In a site with parking and commute issues, she encouraged the community and staff to embrace healthy commuting. Even today, she is laying the foundation for another successful Golden Sneaker Contest in February! She hopes to create healthy competition between participants with fun data collection while focusing on health and the environment.

We want to spotlight your school or school SR2S champion! [Contact your site coordinator](#) for more information.



Enthusiasm for International Walk and Roll to School Day Grows

We are excited to report another successful International Walk and Roll to School Day this year. Alameda County continues our strong tradition of celebrating this popular event with a 9 percent increase in school participation as compared to 2016. Nearly 75 percent of students at participating schools arrived by walking, bicycling, carpooling or taking transit that day based on schools that reported students' arrival.

The Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools program encourages all schools to build on this enthusiasm and continue to walk and roll to school throughout the school year. Regular events are an effective way to establish the habit in students and their families.

[Contact your school's site coordinator](#) to help you get started or to let her or him know what you're already doing! [More information and resources](#) in English and Spanish are available, including monthly themes to help inspire ongoing participation.

Number of Participating Schools



Calendar

December

All December: Cocoa for Carpools

December 31: American's Favorite Crossing Guard nominations close

January

All January: Cocoa for Carpools; Vote for America's Favorite Crossing Guard

January 3: Last day to submit presentation proposals for 2018 YES Conference

January 12: Golden Sneaker Contest registration ends

February

All February: Cocoa for Carpools

February 24: YES Conference at Laney College, Oakland

February 26: Golden Sneaker Contest begins

March

March 9: Golden Sneaker Contest ends

March 23: Bike to School Day Registration closes

April

April 22: Earth Day

May

May 10: Bike to School Day



Alameda County

