

Student Essay Contest Winner!

It was hard to pick just one winner for our Student Essay contest, but congratulations to **Gabriela Campos Gonzalez**, a 5th grader at Bridlemile Elementary, for her very thoughtful essay:



GABRIELA CAMPOS GONZALEZ WON OUR ESSAY CONTEST

Some people I know say I shouldn't go to school walking when it's raining, but I say I like doing it. When it rains I just take an umbrella and shoes that don't slip. I love going to school when it rains because I can feel the cold, watery raindrops on my face. My favorite thing about walking to school on rainy days is hearing the rain fall on my umbrella. I think other people should try this. I know they will feel like me.

Gabriela won a new backpack full of transportation goodies. Check out our website www.SafeRoutesPortland.org for more stellar student essays.

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May is Walk+Bike Challenge Month

Are you ready for the challenge? In May, students from all across Oregon participate in Walk+Bike Challenge Month.

The Walk+Bike Challenge is a free, month-long competition between Oregon students of all ages to see who can walk, bike, scoot, or skate the most. Students keep track of the days they use active transportation to get to school on a scorecard which they then turn in for prizes. The Challenge wraps up with a special celebration at PGE Park on June 11th called Walk+Bike to Baseball night.



BAILEY THURMAN, 5TH GRADER AT GILBERT HEIGHTS, HELPS WITH REGISTRATION DURING THE WALK + BIKE CHALLENGE



STUDENTS USE SCORECARDS TO KEEP TRACK OF THE DAYS THEY USE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

This is a fun and easy activity to organize at your school. To learn more, go to the Walk+Bike website at walknbike.org. Registration begins in March.

Portland Safe Routes to School will also be holding three free trainings for Walk+Bike Challenge Month. (See the SR2S Trainings Calendar inside this newsletter.) At the trainings you will have the opportunity to:

- pick-up extra promotional materials and incentives
- meet with other school organizers and share ideas
- create an action plan for your school

For more information about Walk+Bike Challenge Month, contact Clay at **503-823-4998**.

All trainings are ADA accessible. We also have language translation and childcare services upon request.

I volunteer with the walk/bike program at Lewis. I think the school does a great job encouraging kids to walk/bike/skateboard and make healthy lifestyle choices!

– Lewis parent

For the latest events, campaign resources, photos and more, go to: www.SafeRoutesPortland.org

HAVE FUN. BE SAFE.

sr2s Trainings Calendar



Thursday, February 4, 6:00 – 7:30pm
at Peninsula Elementary School, 501 N Dixon St
Spanish/English Bilingual Training: All Weather Cycling and Walking to School (dinner provided)

Wednesday, February 10, 5:30 – 7:00pm
at Portland Building, 1120 SW 5th Ave,
9th floor, Broadway Room
Panel Discussion: Promoting Active Transportation at School (dinner provided)

Monday, February 22, 10:30am – 12Noon
at Belmont Library, 1038 SE 39th Ave
Training: Family-friendly biking (snacks provided)

Monday, March 1, 10:30 – 11:30am
at Belmont Library, 1038 SE 39th Ave
Training: Promoting Walk+Bike Challenge Month at your School (snacks provided)

Monday, April 5, 3:30 – 4:30pm
at Gregory Heights Library, 7921 NE Sandy Blvd
Training: Promoting Walk+Bike Challenge Month at your School (snacks provided)

Tuesday, April 6, 12:00 – 1:30pm
at Hillsdale Library, 1525 SW Sunset Blvd
Training: Promoting Walk+Bike Challenge Month at your School (lunch provided)

RSVP for events to saferoutes@trans.ci.portland.or.us or 503-823-4998. For more information, visit www.SafeRoutesPortland.org.

Order Free Transportation Materials with SmartTrips

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to get free transportation resources and help your school! If you have a 2nd or 5th grade student in your family, be sure to look for your **SmartTrips** order form in the mail this January or February.

SmartTrips is a Portland Safe Routes to School program offering families **free** resources, including maps, activity books, and safety information about walking, biking, public transit, and carpool.

Families can choose to receive the information they want and students get to pick a free gift just for ordering!

This is also a great way to raise up to \$300 for your school. Safe Routes will give \$5 to schools for each order one of their families places. Orders are guaranteed if placed by May 1, 2010, and will be delivered by bicycle right to your door.

Walking to school is a wonderful reason to attend a neighborhood school.
– Abernethy parent



FREE MATERIALS FROM THE SMARTTRIPS ORDER FORM. STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE FREE GIFTS OF A BIKE BELL, SR2S PATCH, OR "WALK THERE" BOOK JUST FOR ORDERING!

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SPONSORING PARTNERS



GROW HEALTHY. GET THERE.

Funding for Safe Routes Safety Projects

In 2008, Portland Safe Routes to School program was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to enhance its efforts to increase safe ways for students to walk and bike to school. This money provides funding for infrastructure improvements at the 11 Safe Routes schools that joined the program during the 2006/2007 school year. The money is from the federally funded Safe Routes to School program.

The projects listed below were recommended and prioritized by Safe Routes school teams at each of the schools. Made up of school staff, parents, concerned neighbors, and, on occasion, students, the school teams worked with an engineer from the City of Portland to identify key safety challenges around their schools and prioritize the improvements they valued the most. For more information on how these projects were selected or to get involved with Safe Routes in your school, visit www.SafeRoutesPortland.org

These improvements are scheduled to be installed this spring.

SCHOOL	ENGINEERING PROJECT	FUNDING
Capitol Hill	Street/Curb/Walk	\$76,700
Chapman	Green Curb Extensions	\$30,500
Chief Joseph	Refuge Islands, Countdown Signals	\$63,200
Faubion	Sidewalk, Curb Ramps	\$37,000
Forest Park	Sidewalk, Curb Ramps	\$24,500
Gilbert Heights	Street/Curb/Walk	\$53,700
Kelly	Curb Ramps, Countdown Signals	\$24,100
Rosa Parks	Refuge Islands, Curb Ramps, Countdown Signals	\$66,200
Sacramento	Sidewalk	\$42,300
Sunnyside Environmental	Curb Ramps, Countdown Signals	\$29,600

Be a Fan of Portland Safe Routes on Facebook



Safe Routes to School now has a Facebook fan page.

Visit us at www.facebook.com/SafeRoutesPortland to become our fan. You'll get regular updates, see fun photos, and keep up to date on our free events.

It's an easy way to stay informed in between our newsletters. See you online!

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SPONSORING PARTNERS



