

**AAPS Pedestrian & Traffic Student Safety Plan Update**  
Increased Awareness, Focus, & Outcomes

Jeanice K. Swift  
Superintendent of Schools  
Wednesday, May 10, 2017

**Stated Goal:** In the Ann Arbor Public Schools, we place as a top priority the task of keeping our students safe. This effort comes before our critical mission of teaching, learning, and student achievement. In this endeavor, we embrace the fundamental priority of ensuring a safe environment for our students 'door to door.'

We will direct our coordinated efforts as individuals, AAPS Schools and District in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor to increase awareness and improved attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors to ensure a safe environment for our students as they travel to and from school.

**1) Coordinate with City & Townships to ensure Improved Pedestrian/Traffic Safety in/around Schools**

- Focused efforts on improved cross walks, improved flashers, street lighting, school zones & reduced speeds around AAPS schools
  - Worked with City to install reduced speed school zones at the AAPS priority locations: Huron, Pathways, Pioneer, and Tappan
- AAPS Student Safety Transportation Committee
  - Have met regularly, with City Manager and Superintendent in attendance and are progressing on a number of issues, prioritizing pedestrian and traffic safety around our schools
  - Appreciate the partnership, support and engagement of community members and groups who attend and engage in this work, including A2 Safe Transport and Michigan Safe Kids among others.
  - Installed Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at Huron HS and also the extension of sidewalk along Fuller & relocation of Gallup Park crossing is scheduled for Fall, 2017
  - Installed overhead lighting on Fuller near Huron High School
  - Will continue work with City team to incorporate the list of priority
  - Anticipate installation of much-needed sidewalks as a result of passage of 2017 Sinking Fund Millage
- City of Ann Arbor Transportation Advisory Council
  - AAPS team member, Ms. Hein, serves on the AA Transportation Advisory Council and regularly attends those meetings

**2) Coordinate & Support Safe Routes to School Work**

- All 31 school campuses will engage in the Safe Routes to School work

- Will update the Safe Routes to School processes across our schools; schools are in various phases in their progress on these important efforts
  - Currently A2STEAM has impressive effort in progress – Safe Routes to School Committee and the Safe Routes Team from Michigan State University recently finished their 3<sup>rd</sup> phase to finalize an action plan to obtain funding for street and sidewalk infrastructure enhancements – this will come from MDOT and is anticipated to receive up to \$400,000 for off-campus infrastructure improvements – streets and sidewalks, and up to \$16,000 for education of the school community
  - This A2STEAM effort will serve as a model for other schools to emulate as we continue our efforts during 2017
- **Safe Routes to School (SRTS)** is an international movement—and now a federal program—to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children, including those with disabilities, to bicycle and walk to school.
  - When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need for good health.
  - Safe Routes to School initiatives also help ease traffic jams and air pollution, unite neighborhoods, and contribute to students’ readiness to learn in school.

### 3) Education Campaign - Students/Parents/Community

- Coordinate with the City and Community groups to educate on pedestrian/student/transportation safety and to align our efforts to ensure increased awareness, change behavior and improved outcomes across the City.
  - Currently, partnering with the City and community organizations to launch **A2 BE SAFE** education campaign; Mr. Cluley and PK12 Executive Directors will support our principals in launching these education efforts in our schools
  - Focus on *Back-to-School* education emphasis efforts will extend across our 32 schools
  - Education efforts will include *Walking Bus* and other promotions to highlight safety pedestrian and transportation practices for **students, parents, and community**  
Ms. Bacolor, Community and Student Wellness will coordinate to lend support to these education efforts, also