

# Safe Routes to School 2008-2009

Carson City School District will be encouraging and enabling students to walk and bike to school through the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program during the 2008-2009 school year. The program is a federally funded national program that is administered in Nevada by the Nevada Department of Transportation's Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safe Routes to School Section. Carson City School District received a one-year grant of about \$50,000 to implement projects at Bordewich Bray, Fremont, and Al Seeliger elementary schools, and a coordinator who focuses on these three schools but works with the other three elementary schools and two middle schools. The coordinator works for Sierra Nevada Journeys, in partnership with the district. The program has five elements: education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation and engineering.

## **Bordewich Bray**

At Bordewich Bray elementary school, the grant will supply bicycle helmets all students who do not already have them, starting in third grade with the bicycle safety education program. Walk to School Day and the recess walking program will be supported with student incentives. Improvements will be made to signing, curb colors, and bicycle racks.

## **Fremont**

Improvements will be made to school signing, particularly the no left turn restriction from Firebox to Saliman during arrival and departure times. Improvements will be made to bicycle storage usability and security to encourage student bicycling. Initial planning will take place to prepare for future projects to solve the traffic congestion and safety problems at Fremont created by parents driving their children to school.

## **Al Seeliger**

Additional changes will be made to signing, curb colors, and procedures in order to enhance changes in student drop-off and pick-up, bus lanes, and parking that the school has already implemented, which will further ease traffic flow and ensure student safety. Speed humps will be installed in the drop-off/pick-up loop to slow vehicle speeds. Improvements will be made to bicycle storage usability and security to encourage student bicycling.

## **Overall**

- All district schools will participate in Walk to School Days (which includes bicycling, skateboarding and scootering) on at least three dates in the spring, following on to the successful Walk to School Day at Seeliger and Mark Twain on October 8th.
- All three grant schools will implement or enhance recess-time walking programs which encourage regular exercise and student health, and include those students who use school bus transportation, or whose parents refuse to let them walk and bicycle, into the Safe Routes program.
- Speed display signs will be purchased that can be mounted for periods of time on a rotating basis, in school zones and on campuses, to educate drivers and solve speeding problems reported by principals and others. These signs, which are funded by the Fremont grant, will be used with a focus on speeding problems along Saliman Road in front of Fremont and Al Seeliger elementary schools, but used at other sites as well.

## **SRTS Coordinator**

The SRTS Coordinator, Dan Allison:

- is documenting existing conditions (including facilities and student and driver behavior at all school sites), which will enable informed decisions in this and future grants
- attended a national training course
- held meetings with a variety of district and school staff, and program partners
- identified items for purchase to fulfill the grant
- created a program website
- started the process of developing the next round grant applications