SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
HASTINGS - ON - HUDSON
2019
Why Safe Routes to School?

➢ Increases walking and bicycling to school; students healthier
➢ Decreases traffic dangers; students are safer
➢ Lowers transportation costs for school districts & families
➢ Reduces traffic congestion
➢ Improves air quality

(Data and findings from Safe Routes Partnership, a national non-profit)
Goals of *Safe Routes to School*

- Where it’s safe, get children walking and biking
- Where it’s not, make changes
History & Evolution of SRTS in Hastings

➢ Complete Streets Initiative passed in 2014
➢ More pedestrian, school & bike safe recommendations begin to be implemented
➢ More safe routes established with Route 9 Resolution in 2016
Hastings SRTS Partners with a Cross Section of Community Leaders

SRTS Partnership

- PTSA Traffic Safety Committee
- Climate Smart Communities Task Force
- Village officials
- School Administrators
- Interested Parents, Students, and Residents
The 6 E’s of Safe Routes to School

★ EDUCATION
★ ENCOURAGEMENT
★ ENGINEERING
★ EQUITY
★ ENFORCEMENT
★ EVALUATION

➔ **Promoting Safety Around Hastings’ Schools** flier mailed to FMS parents starting in Summer 2017.

➔ Police Chief Dosin has been providing crosswalk safety workshops at FMS and HHS since 2019.
As a HOH Pace Car driver, I pledge to:

• Drive within the speed limit and obey all traffic regulations, especially near schools.
• Share the road safely with pedestrians, bicyclists, and other drivers.
• Yield to pedestrians who are within the crosswalk and at unmarked intersections.
• Put my phone down while driving. I will not drive while texting or making phone calls (even making hands-free phone calls impairs safe driving).
• Walk, bike, carpool, or use public transportation whenever possible.
• Display the HOH PACE CAR magnet and decal on my car.
• Encourage others to take the HOH PACE CAR pledge.

Encourage-Ment

→ Hastings-on-Hudson (HOH) Pace Car program was started in fall 2017 by the PTSA.

→ Small card included with Pace Car magnet provides parents with a reminder of their pledge and some education of how speed impacts the survival of pedestrians hit by vehicles.
Additional stop signs, crosswalks and sidewalks provided to enhance *Safe Routes to School* (including Hillside Ave & Chauncey Lane crosswalk, off Reynolds Park).

The Village hired a Traffic Engineering firm in 2017 to further study traffic, and related student and pedestrian safety, issues.
In summer 2017, Hastings PTSA hired a college intern to map out safe routes to school in the Southern Corridor which had fewer safe routes to school.

Based on those findings and the Traffic Engineering report recommendations, the Safe Routes to School Committee will make recommendations for sidewalks, crosswalks and stop signs to improve safe walking access to school where it is needed the most.
In September 2018, the Village of Hastings passed an ordinance lowering the speed limit to 15 mph in the School Zone, and signs were installed soon after in Spring 2019.

We are working on improving enforcement.

Traffic Engineering firm’s recommendations, begun in 2017, proposes how to fix traffic flow around the upper school.
Growing *Safe Routes to School*

- Continuing to build on recent momentum and successes
- Much more to be done
- Questions, contact: saferoutes@hastingsgov.org