



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Office of the Superintendent
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September 9, 2016

City Hall
Alderman Nik Kovac
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mr. Kovac:

The Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) has been working closely with the Wisconsin Bike Fed in the implementation of the Safe Routes to School program since 2005. The focus of these efforts is centered on increasing the number and safety of families walking or riding bikes to school.

At the present time, City of Milwaukee Ordinance 102.8 prohibits riding of bicycles on public school grounds or public playgrounds. In order to better align the Safe Routes to Schools goals with City of Milwaukee ordinances, Milwaukee Public Schools is in support of modifying this ordinance language to read as follows:

102-7. Bicycle Regulations. 1. RIDING ON PUBLIC WAYS. No bicycle shall be operated upon any public sidewalk. This subsection shall not apply to bicycles operated by police officers in the necessary discharge of their official duties; or to sidewalks or sidewalk areas designated by the common council and identified by signs or other clear markings as a bicycle way. Children less than 10 years of age who are supervised by an adult may ride on any sidewalk that does not abut a building. A further exception is made for any disabled person to permit riding upon any public sidewalk or playground while accompanied by a responsible adult. When operating a bicycle on a bicycle way every driver shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle driver or pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.

Providing safe, motor vehicle free, opportunities for our children to get physically active through riding bikes is a benefit to the health and vitality of our students and community. With Milwaukee Public Schools in support of reducing costs of bussing, increasing student academic achievement, and fighting diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and asthma, this action is one step towards the overall work to provide safe, recreational and transportation opportunities for all members of our community.

Best,

Darienne B. Driver, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Start. Stay. Succeed.
Comienza. Quédate. Triunfa.