

Bike Bus Guide

How to get parents and students in your community riding and walking to school together!



peopleforbikes



"School Buses Run on Gas, Bike Buses Run on Joy" - Sam Balto

Bike Buses reduce pollution, build community, and replace drop off line congestion with fun! Here's how to get parents and students in your community riding and walking to school together.

BUILD YOUR TEAM

Find your leaders: Spread the word to parents and staff.

Use a text chain or group messaging app.

Make a weather plan.

Announce changes at least 24 hours ahead.

PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Identify where students are coming from.

Look for a meetup spot, like a park.

Find bike infrastructure / traffic calming: Use the PGH Bike Map!

Use Google Maps, RideWithGPS, or plotaroute.com to map your route.

Route should be ~ 0.5 to 3 miles.

Riding at 5-8 mph, test ride the route and time it.

Add a 10 minute buffer before and after to determine your start time

SUPPLIES + PREP

Make sure everyone has a functioning bike and helmet.

Bike lights are recommended.

Adult leaders should have safety vests.

Music / Speakers are a bonus!

BIKE PARKING

Is there a bike rack and do students have locks?

Is there secure inside storage?

If the answer is "no," make a plan.

PERMISSIONS

Decide: Will you require waivers, permission slips, or preregistration?

Will you involve school administration in this process?

PROMOTION

School newsletter, School or PTA social media

Paper flyers, stickers, t-shirts, or other swag

SET THE SCHEDULE

Set how often your bike bus will run - monthly? weekly?

A regular schedule is key to having participation!

Find out more here:



bikepgh.org/bikebusguide