
MISCELLANEOUS – VEHICLE IDLING

Adoption Date: January 10, 2012; January 9, 2018
Legal Ref: 410 IAC 33-4-3
Cross Ref:

The purpose of this policy is to eliminate all unnecessary idling by any vehicle on Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) property

Vehicle exhaust from idling vehicles poses health, environmental, and financial risks to the WWS community.

This policy applies to the operation of every vehicle on WWS property.

WWS shall post signs in areas where idling is prohibited. The following rules apply in “idling zones”:

Not School Buses Vehicles Idling Time

1. Drivers of all public and private vehicles are to turn off the engine if the vehicle is to be stopped more than five (5) minutes in locations where vehicle exhaust may be drawn into the building or while on school grounds.

WWS Vehicle Idling Time

1. When school bus drivers arrive at loading or unloading areas to drop off or pick up passengers, they should turn off their buses as soon as possible to eliminate idling time and reduce harmful emissions. The school bus should not be restarted until it is ready to depart and there is a clear path to exit the pick-up area.
2. School buses will not idle (on school grounds or off school grounds) for longer than five (5) minutes unless:
 - a. There are extreme weather conditions (meaning 30 degrees Fahrenheit or less, or above 85 degrees Fahrenheit) and the purpose is to warm or cool the interior of the bus;
 - b. Longer idling time is necessary to facilitate the loading and unloading of students of special needs;
 - c. There are safety or emergency situations;
 - d. There are maintenance or mechanical inspection/repair issues requiring a longer time to facilitate the inspection/repair process; or
 - e. The bus is idling in traffic.
3. Buses should not idle while waiting for students during field trips, extracurricular activities, or other events where students are transported off school grounds.

4. In uncomfortably cold or hot weather, a space inside the school building should be provided where bus drivers who arrive early can wait.
5. Bus schedules should be revised so that school bus caravanning can be avoided and the cleanest buses assigned to the longest routes.

Any complaints of non-compliance with this policy shall be reported to the Superintendent or his or her designee.