



Red Bank Borough Public Schools

Dream BIG...We'll Help You Get There!

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Red Bank Schools Earn Top Honors for Commitment to Student Safety

RED BANK, NJ – Red Bank Primary School and Red Bank Middle School have been honored with the prestigious Gold Award by EZ Ride for their outstanding work in promoting safe walking and biking for students. The awards were presented at EZ Ride's 2025 Annual Recognition Event, which took place on September 25, 2025 at the Galloping Hill Golf Course. The Borough of Red Bank was also recognized with a Gold Award, celebrating the community's leadership in this important initiative.

The awards recognize the schools' exceptional implementation of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, a statewide initiative that aligns with national efforts to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety for schoolchildren. This achievement exemplifies the Red Bank Borough Public School District's commitment to its motto, "Dream BIG...We'll Help You Get There!"

"This Gold Award is a testament to our district's core values," said Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jared Ramage. "Safety is our first priority, and the Safe Routes to School program has been instrumental in ensuring our students' journeys to and from school are secure. This initiative directly supports our commitment to daily learning, as a safe journey ensures students arrive ready to learn. And the activities we implemented to achieve this distinction align directly with our Strategic Plan, *Dream Bigger: A 5-Year Roadmap*, and our unwavering commitment to our students' well-being and academic success."

This year, the SRTS program recognized **147 New Jersey schools**, which hosted over **800 safety events** and reached more than **44,000 participants** across five counties. SRTS activities in Red Bank and other communities ranged from safety presentations and community audits to bike skill classes, poster contests, and walk/bike-to-school days. Making these activities a regular part of the school year helps create a culture of safety.

In Red Bank, partnering with EZ Ride is a perfect match for our walkable town. The SRTS programming helps our youngest learners stay safe, active, and environmentally mindful as they learn the joys of walking and biking. Christina Vlahos, Vice Principal of Red Bank Primary School (RBPS) enjoys a particular event and shares, "One of our favorite new traditions at RBPS is when our Safety Patrol students celebrate the legacy of Ruby Bridges during Walk to School Day, forming a cheer line to greet all students who walk or bike to school. Even our school mascot, Stormy, joins the fun, handing out 'I walked to school' stickers that students proudly wear all day."

At Red Bank Middle School, the impact of the Safe Routes to School program is easy to spot, according to Vice Principal Michael Dougherty. "The enthusiasm our students have shown for biking has been incredible, and it's so great to see them choosing an active way to get to school. In fact, so many students are now riding their bikes that we've already had to order more bike racks. We couldn't be prouder of our students and the positive impact this program is having."

In addition to the SRTS efforts, the district recently completed major renovations to the exterior grounds of both schools. These projects have not only beautified the campuses but have also contributed to a significant redesign of arrival and dismissal procedures, further enhancing student safety and security. The upgraded grounds and traffic flow improvements work in tandem with the Safe Routes to School program to create a comprehensive and secure environment for all students.

EZ Ride is a nonprofit organization dedicated to overcoming transportation barriers. For over 40 years, it has partnered with businesses and governments to implement programs like carpools, vanpools, shuttles, and biking and walking programs. In 2013, the organization was recognized as the Urban Community Transportation System of the Year.

Top-tier SRTS awardees like Red Bank Primary and Middle Schools also gain valuable benefits, including working towards achieving Sustainable Jersey certification, qualifying for mini-grants, and strengthening their position for future infrastructure grants through the New Jersey Department of Transportation.



To view all the awardees, including Red Bank Primary School and Red Bank Middle School, view EZ Ride's [2025 Safe Routes to School School Awardees](#) video.

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