



*Involving students in an idling reduction campaign at your school could be extremely beneficial to the students and could make the campaign much more successful. This could be undertaken as a science project or a community involvement project.*

Students could be involved throughout the entire project in as many or as few ways as the school determines most appropriate. Some examples of student involvement are:

- They can learn how to run a public service campaign by being involved in the project from start to finish.
- They can learn about air quality issues and the pollution emitted from vehicles from the presentations available in the Toolkit (See *“Idle Free Schools Presentation”* and *“Clean School Bus Teachers Guide”*).
- They can conduct all, or some, of the vehicle idling observations (See *“How to Conduct Observations”*).
- They can work with real life data. Data collection, management and analysis are strong mathematical skills to learn (See *“Analyzing the Data”*).
- They can also present the data (both on the problem before the campaign and on the results of the campaign) as a science project or to the PTA, providing them with invaluable public speaking skills.
- They can coordinate the letters and pledges, collect the pledge sheets and track them by classroom.
- They can learn vital interpersonal skills during the Driver Contact event (See *“How to Conduct the Driver Contact Event”*).

Perhaps most importantly, students could be provided with the opportunity to see a project through from beginning to conclusion, seeing real results of their efforts at their own school. Involving students in this project can be a very powerful experience for them.

Resources:

Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment>

City of San Antonio Office of Sustainability:

<https://www.sanantonio.gov/sustainability/AirQuality/breathetoday#229353083-schools>