



**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUSINESS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION SHEET**

DATE: June 14, 2023
TO: Business Committee
FROM: Mark Walsh, Secretary - Treasurer
Pete Sabo, Executive Director Planning & Operations
Tracy Mowat, Transportation Manager
SUBJECT: Administrative Procedure – Bus & Vehicle Idling

Background:

The purpose of this Information Sheet is to outline a newly created AP regarding bus and vehicle idling.

In accordance with the Environmental Steward Action Plan that the District adopted in Summer of 2022, staff have been putting forth effort to minimize impacts on the environment, reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions and adapt to a changing environment.

Discussion:

Vehicle idling is an important environmental and economic issue due to the unnecessary emission of carbon dioxide, the primary contributor to the greenhouse gas effect. According to Natural Resources Canada, a typical vehicle produces approximately three times its weight in carbon dioxide each year.

Diesel and gasoline exhaust from idling school buses and other vehicles can accumulate in and around the vehicle and pose a health risk, both to children and drivers. Exposure to diesel and gasoline exhaust can cause lung damage and respiratory problems. Idling vehicles is also wasteful of fuel and financial resources.

While the District has had a long-standing practice of recommending reduced idling times, there has not been an Administrative Procedure that outlines specific guidelines for staff to follow. Providing an AP that addresses the issue and outlines the maximum acceptable idling times will help clarify expectations to staff.

With the growing concern for reducing carbon footprints, a new idling policy is necessary to curb unnecessary emissions, help combat climate change, and promote cleaner air for all.

Once approved, the document would be shared district wide for information and managers who have staff(s) affected will provide the document to their staff and at the next available face to face opportunity review the document with staff and provide time for Q&A. Operational information received will be considered for future updates to the AP.

Appendix A: Administrative Procedure – Bus & Vehicle Idling