



Weston Public Schools
Anti-Idling Requirements

Finance and Operations Office
89 Wellesley Street
Weston, MA 02493

Procedure:	Anti-Idling Procedure	Revised Date:	May, 2012
Policy: Compliance with the state and federal requirements.			
The purpose of the Anti-Idling law is to ensure the safety of the faculty, staff and students as well as the environment.			
Completed By:	Drivers of Weston Public School Vehicles	Reviewed By:	Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Approved By:	Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations	Entered By:	N/A
Form Title:	Anti-Idling Acknowledgement Form	Estimated Time Frame:	Annually, Every September
Process for Completion:			
In 2008, an Act to Improve School Campus Air Quality was signed into law (Chapter 386 of the Acts of 2008). Every employee who may have reason to idle a vehicle shall, upon employment and at least one year thereafter, sign a document acknowledging the receipt of copies of Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 90, § 16B and 540 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulation (CMR) 27.00. The CMR is under the authority of the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The prohibitions contained in M.G.L. Chapter 90, § 16B shall be enforced by state or local law enforcement. Attached: Acknowledgment Sheet 540 CMR 27.00: Registry of Motor Vehicles M.G.L. Chapter 90, § 16B			
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Weston School Committee Policy:	Motor Vehicle Idling on School Grounds, EEAEF		

540 CMR: REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

540 CMR 27.00: REGULATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE IDLING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Section

- 27.01: Scope and Applicability
- 27.02; Definitions
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Scope and Applicability

540 CMR 27.00 is adopted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 90, § 1613. 540 CAR 27.00 governs the operation and idling of all motor vehicles on school grounds. The purpose of 540 CMR. 27.00 is to restrict unnecessary idling time and to govern the time during which a motor vehicle can idle on school grounds, in order to improve and protect school campus air quality. Enforcement of 540 CMR 27.00 is to be undertaken by local law enforcement authorities.

27.02; Definitions

In addition to the definitions contained in M.G.L. c. 90, § I, the following definitions shall also apply. School Grounds For the purposes of 540 CMR 27.00, school grounds shall mean in, on or within 100 feet of the real property comprising a public or private accredited preschool, accredited Head Start facility, elementary, vocational or secondary school whether or not in session, and shall include any athletic field or facility and any playground used for school purposes or functions which are owned by a municipality or school district, regardless of proximity to a school building, as well as any parking lot appurtenant to such school athletic field, facility, or playground.

27.03: *General Restrictions*

(1) No motor vehicle operator shall cause or allow the engine of any motor vehicle operated by him or her on school grounds to idle unnecessarily, except under the conditions described in

540 CMR 27.04: *Exemptions*.

(2) A motor vehicle operator shall not idle a motor vehicle within 100 feet from a known and active school air intake system, unless the school has determined that alternative locations block traffic, impair student safety or are not cost effective. Reasonable efforts should be made by schools to identify by signage all such known and active air intake systems.

540 GMR 27.04 does not apply for the period or periods during which idling is necessary under the following circumstances:

(a) Traffic Conditions.

1. For traffic conditions over which the driver has no control; or
2. For an official traffic control device or signal; or
3. At the direction of a uniformed police officer or a person authorized to direct traffic.

(b) Queuing at a School

I. Where the physical configuration of a school requires a queue of vehicles for the sequential discharge or pickup of students, and the queue of vehicles is actively engaged in the discharge or pickup of students.

(c) Turbo-charged Diesel Engine Cool Down or Warm Up. When the manufacturer's specifications require idling the engine, to cool down or warm up *a* turbo-charged diesel engine. Documentation of this requirement shall be kept in the vehicle at all times.

(d) Cool/Hot Weather - School Buses.

1. If the interior temperature of any school bus is less than 35°F , then idling *is* allowed to heat the interior of the school bus for a period or periods aggregating not more than three minutes in any 15 minute period during which the school bus is waiting to accept or discharge passengers; or

2. If the interior temperature of any school bus *is* greater than 0°F and it is not practical or possible to open the windows or to park in a shaded area, and the school bus is equipped with air conditioning, then idling is allowed to cool the interior of the motor vehicle for *a* period or periods aggregating not more than three minutes in any 15 minute period during which the school bus is waiting to accept or discharge passengers.

(e) Cold/Hot Weather - Motor Vehicles Other Than School Buses.

1. If the exterior temperature is less than 35°F, then idling is allowed to *heat* the interior of any motor vehicle other than a school bus for a period or periods aggregating not more than one minute in any 15 minute period during which the motor vehicle is waiting to accept or discharge passengers; or

2. If the exterior temperature is greater than 80°F and it *is* not practical or possible to open the windows or to park in a shaded area, and the vehicle is equipped with air conditioning, then idling is allowed to cool the interior of the motor vehicle other than a school bus for a period or periods aggregating not more than one minute in any 15 minute period during which the motor vehicle is waiting *to* accept or discharge passengers.

(f) Safety and Emergencies

1. To ascertain that the school bus or other commercial vehicle is in safe operating condition and equipped as required by all provisions of law, and all equipment is in good working order, either as part of the driver's daily vehicle inspection, or as otherwise needed; or

2. To operate the flashing signal lamps and/or stop signal arm devices required bylaw where the operation of those devices cannot be undertaken by battery power alone; or

3. To operate defrosters, or other equipment to ensure the safe operation of the vehicle, or as otherwise required by federal or state motor carrier safety regulations, or other local requirements; or

4. To operate a heater or an air conditioner for only the period necessary to ensure a reasonable interior temperature in *a* vehicle that *has*, or will have, one or more children aboard with temperature sensitive disabilities; or.

5. To operate a lift or other piece of equipment designed to ensure safe loading, unloading, or transport of persons with one or more disabilities; or

6. Use of school bus *as* an emergency vehicle.

(g) Maintenance of Operations.

1. For testing, servicing, repairing, or diagnostic purposes; or
2. To recharge a battery or other energy storage unit of a hybrid electric bus.

27.05: Signage

Each public or private accredited preschool, accredited Head Start facility, elementary, vocational, secondary school, school district or municipality shall erect and maintain in a conspicuous location on school grounds "NO IDLING" permanent signage *as* described below.

All such signage shall be sized and contain appropriate sized font so *as* to be visible from a distance of 50 feet.

NO IDLING.

PENALTIES OF \$100 FOR FIRST OFFENSE AND \$500
FOR SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES
M.G.L. C. 90, § 16B and 540 CMR 27.00

540 CMR: REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

27.06: Training of School Bus Drivers

(1) The Registry of Motor Vehicles shall notify, during the annual school bus driver certification process required by M.G. L. c. 90, all individuals certified and endorsed to be school bus operators of the requirements of M.G.L. c. 90, § 168 and 540 CMR 27.00 relative to idling on school grounds and of the consequences of not complying with those requirements.

(2) School bus companies within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall ensure that each school bus driver employed by them, upon employment and at least once per year thereafter, is informed of the requirements of M.G.L. c. 90, § 168 and 540 CMR 27.00 relative to idling on school grounds and of the consequences of not complying with those requirements.

27.07: Penalties

An operator or owner of *a* motor vehicle, who violates the provisions of M.G.L. c. 90, § 16B or the regulations promulgated there under at 540 CMR 27.00 shall be subject to a civil assessment as follows:

- (a) A penalty of \$100 for the rust offense; or
- (h) A penalty of \$500 for the second offense, and any subsequent offenses.

27.08: Enforcement

The prohibitions of M.G.L. c. 90, § 168 shall be enforced by state or local law enforcement agencies.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

540 CMR. 27.00: M.G.L. c. 90, § 16B.

Chapter 386 of the Acts of 2008

AN ACT TO IMPROVE SCHOOL CAMPUS AIR QUALITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 37H of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the second sentence the following sentence:- Said policies shall further restrict operators of school buses and personal motor vehicles, including students, faculty, staff and visitors, from idling such vehicles on school grounds, consistent with section 16B of chapter 90 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto and by the department.

SECTION 2. Chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 16A the following section:-

Section 16B. (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "school grounds" shall mean in, on or within 100 feet of the real property comprising a public or private accredited preschool, accredited Head Start facility, elementary, vocational or secondary school whether or not in session, and shall include any athletic field or facility and any playground used for school purposes or functions which are owned by a municipality or school district, regardless of proximity to a school building, as well as any parking lot appurtenant to such school, athletic field, facility or playground.

(b) No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit the prolonged idling of a motor vehicle engine on school property in violation of registry of motor vehicles regulations relative thereto, adopted pursuant to subsection (c). An operator or owner of a motor vehicle who violates this section shall be subject to a civil assessment of \$100 for the first violation and \$500 for a second or subsequent violation. This subsection shall be enforced by law enforcement agencies.

(c) The registrar of motor vehicles, in consultation with the department of education, the department of environmental protection, the executive office of public safety and the executive office of health and human services, shall adopt regulations to implement this section. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, establishing the length of time an operator on school grounds may idle an engine before such idling becomes prolonged, and the limited circumstances under which the prolonged idling of an engine shall be permitted, including periods necessary to operate defrosting, heating or cooling equipment to ensure the health or safety of a driver or passengers or to operate auxiliary equipment and to undergo inspection or during maintenance. Such regulations shall prohibit an operator of a school bus from idling a school bus engine while waiting for children to board or exit a bus on school grounds and from starting a school bus engine for any unnecessary period of time in advance of leaving the school grounds, unless the registrar determines that a school bus engine must be fully engaged in order to operate safety devices or that such idling prohibition would otherwise compromise the safety of children boarding or exiting a bus. Such regulations shall further prescribe templates for "no idling" signage to be posted by schools.

(d) The registry of motor vehicles shall notify all individuals certified and endorsed to be school bus drivers of the provisions of this section and regulations adopted pursuant thereto during the annual certification process required by this chapter.

SECTION 3. Consistent with regulations promulgated pursuant to this act and not later than August 1, 2009, every public or private elementary, vocational and secondary school shall post "no idling" signs conspicuously in the school's passenger loading and unloading areas such that the signs are clearly visible to all motorists entering those areas.

Approved December 16, 2008