

The **AFSZ** is a project of
Real World Foundation

Asthma Free School Zone Newsletter

Asthma Prevention, Environmental Protection & Community Empowerment in a Neighborhood Setting

AFSZ Appearances Here & There

*"Idle Moments Turn into Tons
of Air Pollutants at Schools"*
Scientific American
October 30, 2009

Intro 622 Signing
Red Room, City Hall, MN
October 7, 2009 · 2 PM

*Move About Myrtle
Street Festival*
Myrtle Avenue, BK
September 13, 2009 · 12 PM

*"When Parents Scream
Against Ice Cream"*
The New York Times
August 19, 2009

*NYC DOE District 27
PC Training*
John Adams High Schl, QN
June 10, 2009 · 10 AM

*NYC DOE District 31
PC Training*
Petrides Complex, SI
May 21, 2009

AFSZ Program Kit Launch

After eight years of direct service to nearly 100 schools, AFSZ has launched its expansion phase. The new program model consists of a training-of-trainers and kit of tools designed to enable a school to create and conduct its own AFSZ program.



To date, twenty schools have subscribed to the expansion program. Each receives a 116-page Guide containing print resources, a CD and DVD with educational videos, PowerPoint trainings and handouts, AFSZ street signs, initial subscription to the online *School Resource Center*, and opportunities for regional trainings.

The first regional training-of-trainer workshop took place on Nov. 3rd in northeast Queens with representatives from six schools in the 19th District. Participants familiarized themselves with the Program Kit, drafted goals for their schools, and brainstormed about activities, ranging from stop-idling days to presentations at parent-teacher conference days. Upcoming training workshops will be in Bronx 15th, 17th and 18th Districts and Manhattan 2nd District.

AFSZ Schools Win AFSAs

Twelve AFSZ schools were recognized with an *Asthma Friendly School Award* (AFSA) for their efforts to create a safe and supportive environment for students with asthma during the 2008-09 school year. The AFSA is an award program of the NYC DOHMH New York City Asthma Partnership (NYCAP). AFSZ congratulates all 31 AFSA schools on their achievement.

AFSA-Winning AFSZ Schools

- Bronx: PS 32 Belmont, PS 55 Benjamin Franklin, PS 230 Doris L. Cohen, PS 11 Highbridge School, PS 193 Gill Hodges;
- Manhattan: PS 111 Adolph S. Ochs, PS 72, PS 171 Patrick Henry, PS 206 Jose Celso Barbosa;
- Staten Island: PS 31 William T. Davis, PS 21 Margaret Emery-Elm Park;
- Brooklyn: PS 23 Carter G. Woodson



AFSZ Online School Resource Center

The AFSZ will soon begin offering a web-based *School Resource Center* (SRC) that will give program schools access to lesson plans, handouts, *School Zone News*, and the May *Bulletin Board Kit*. Stay tuned!

AFSZ Air Quality Testing

Over the past three years, the AFSZ has measured air quality at eight elementary schools in three boroughs, and ten school and community sites distributed throughout the East Village and Lower East Side.

Between 2006 and 2008, with funding from the CMAQ program and NYC DOT, the AFSZ measured particle matter and black carbon at three sites, which included eight schools, in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx. At each site one month of ambient air data collection preceded and followed a year of AFSZ activities. Analysis is now complete and a report on the multi-year, multi-site study will be issued soon.

In a ten-site study, with funding from CB3 (MN) and Con Edison, AFSZ used real-time instruments to measure PM_{2.5} and carbon levels at one-minute intervals for 4-5 weeks in each season of this past year. Gravimetric instruments also collected particulate matter on pre-weighed filters.

Working with our partner, Hunter College (Dept. of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences), AFSZ is now in the process of analyzing and writing up the eighteen weeks of CB3 data.