

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

*AFSZ Program Kit
Training-of-Trainers
Schools Citywide
University Settlement
March 23, 2010*

*AFSZ Program Kit
Training-of-Trainers
District 15, 17, 18, BX
December 16, 2009*

*"Using Video to Raise
Asthma Awareness in
Students and Parents"
Delivering Key Asthma
Messages: Methods/Strategies
NYCAP Semi-Annual Meeting
December 9, 2009*

*NYPD School Crossing Guard
Asthma & Idling Training
Precinct 9, Manhattan
November 23, 2009*

*AFSZ Program Kit
Training-of-Trainers
District 11, QN
November 3, 2009*

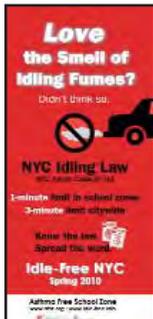
New! www.afsz.org

Idle-Free NYC 2010 has CB3 MN Focus

Thanks to a grant from Con Edison and Manhattan Community Board 3, AFSZ will target the East Village and Lower East Side in this year's *Idle-Free NYC* campaign.

Rather than putting the stop-idling message on public buses and aiming it at drivers, the 2010 message will appear on phone kiosks and inform pedestrians about current NYC idling laws (1-minute near schools and 3-minutes city-wide) and urge them to help spread the word about idling. AFSZ sees this shift as a sign of success since five years ago most New Yorkers did not seem to know the word *idling*, let alone the law.

Also new this year, AFSZ has created a set of air quality lesson plans for K-12 teachers and a Class Activity Guide for discussion and exploration of a local neighborhood. The program was first piloted at the George Jackson school on East 8th Street (MN), where students conducted a neighborhood intervention, speaking with local businesses about idling delivery trucks.



PS 129 Queens: A School Case Study

PS 129 in Queens, an early school in the AFSZ expansion program, is implementing the AFSZ expansion program brilliantly. Using tools and resources from the train-the-trainer **AFSZ Program Kit**, teachers Steve Radwan and Toni Compere are raising environmental health awareness and introducing institutional changes within the school.

As part of the AFSZ 3-part management plan, Radwan and Compere have built an asthma support team that includes teachers, administrators, members of the health and custodial staff and 5th grade student council. The team is assessing the asthma challenge of the school, conducting environmental walk-arounds, designing and spearheading initiatives that engage the entire school.

Within a month of the November training, School-Wide Asthma Protocol posters were hung in classrooms, advising what to do for an asthma attack. An asthma poster and rap contest was announced and Student Asthma Agents have begun monitoring triggers in the school zone. AFSZ congratulates PS 129 on its excellent work.

One Year after the NYC One-Minute Idling Law

So, how are we doing—one year after NYC gained a one-minute school zone idling law, the first-in-the-nation? By most accounts, the idling time limit is well-known and working. Other components of the legislation include the addition of an idling question to the new driver test for the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission and expanded ability of NYPD traffic agents to issue idling tickets.

The TLC has added an idling question to its new driver test and idling is now included in taxi driver training. The NYPD reports that 2300 agents with ticket-writing capacity are now equipped with handheld computers that carry the idling code (08). Their first year report is due out in May.

The AFSA Challenge 2010-11

Schools interested in earning an Asthma Friendly School Award—while creating a safe, healthy learning environment—can find 2010 contest guidelines on the NYCAP / NYC DOHMH website; or can contact the AFSZ for complete information and help in meeting the criteria: 212-533-6615) or schools@afsz.org.

