

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

WIN ABC Award Ceremony
Stop-Idling Week
Children's Hospital of NY
Mar. 4, 2009 ~ 5-6 PM

Mayoral Signing
Intro 631 1-min Limit
School Zone Idling
City Hall, NYC
Feb. 10, 2009 ~ 2-3 PM

City Council Vote
Intro 631 1-min Limit
School Zone Idling
City Hall, NYC
Jan. 28, 2009 ~ 9-2 PM

NYCAP Annual Meeting
Idle-Free NYC Table
New York, NY
Dec. 11, 2008 ~ 9-1 PM

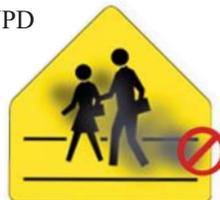
SOBRAP Annual Meeting
Idle-Free NYC Table
Bronx, NY
Dec. 9, 2008 ~ 9-4 PM

NYC Leads US with Strongest Idling Law

On January 28, 2009, the NYC Council voted 43-3 in favor of Intro 631, which makes it illegal for any vehicle to engine idle for more than one minute in a school zone. The new law is significant in its recognition of the need to protect children from unnecessary pollution at school. The law, amending Admin Code 24-163, is the first one-minute idling law nationwide.

Twice this winter, concerned New Yorkers voiced their support for Intro 631 before City Council. Students from PS 28 (BX) wrote testimony that was presented at the January hearing. Members of the PS 122 (QN) *Idle-Free NYC* club, who attended last year's City Hall *Idle-Free NYC* press conference, presented their testimony.

Said one student from PS 122: "Now, to be here again on the day the law has the chance to go into effect, I am honored. I am honored as a New Yorker, we are all honored." The law will go into effect on May 11th, along with Intro 40 that extends current NYPD and NYC DEC ticket-writing rights to the NYC Departments of Parks and Recreation and Sanitation.



AFSZ Year 2 Idle-Free NYC

During the months of April and May, the AFSZ will lead *Idle-Free NYC* (I-FNYC), our annual public awareness campaign about idling and its consequences - environmental, health and fuel costs - as well as to inform citizens about current engine idling laws.

Idle-Free NYC

I-FNYC brings together local organizations, businesses, city agencies, corporations, and schools to get out the message about idling. New Yorkers can expect to see bus ads and cup sleeves. *Idle-Free NYC* culminates on May 5, 2009, World Asthma Day, with a rally on the steps of City Hall. Join us there.

Asthma Education Lesson Plans

The AFSZ is designing classroom lesson plans about asthma, air quality, pollution, and the respiratory system. The lessons are specifically geared for grades 1 and 4 and include cross-disciplinary activities in art, mathematics and science. Some incorporate the use of peak flow meters. The lessons, which meet NYC learning standards, will be piloted this spring in a small number of schools.

AFSZ to Pilot Expansion Model

The AFSZ, now in eighty-five schools in five boroughs, will begin piloting a new program model in September. Building on the ongoing successful direct-service core program, the new model aims to cost-effectively transfer knowledge and enable individual schools to become environmental stewards by themselves and into the future.

As in the current program model, provision of AFSZ no-idling and no-smoking signs, year-round print materials, web-based resources and phone support will continue. Train-the-trainer opportunities will augment the parent and teacher trainings that are included as part of the new program Kit.

Responsibility for the AFSZ expansion program will rest with the school leadership and/or school safety teams, which will oversee the program under the guidance of trained school leaders. Through this knowledge-transfer, individual schools will have the resources needed to create a sustainable Asthma Free School Zone.

Schools interested in learning more about the new program model should contact the AFSZ office at 212-533-6615.