Our mission is to improve student health and safety by increasing the number of student pedestrians through school-based incentive programs, community building, and road safety advocacy.
Our Goals

Get more kids walking to school!

Use data from Walk to School programs to push for building safer routes to school!
Emily Hinsdale

- Sidewalk Stompers
  President and Co-founder
- Walk Bike Tampa
- MPO Livable Roadways Committee
- Community Traffic Safety Team

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Why we walk...

Healthy bodies
• Walking gets students moving and helps establish habits around daily exercise. AAP recommends 60 minutes a day.

Healthy minds
• Morning physical activity helps prepare minds for learning; “outdoor” exercise offers additional mental health benefits.

Healthy environments
• Car lines cause air pollution around schools, including exposure to students inside cars.

Healthy communities
• Walking together means talking together! Get to know your neighbors and peers.
WALK TO SCHOOL
WEDNESDAYS
How it works

- A reward-based program for students on foot/bike
- Community engagement with donations for student rewards
  - School administration and staff support
  - PT(S)A support
  - Community partners
- School/community promotion to educate and encourage
Data tracking

• Individual performance:
  ➢ Volunteers track weekly participation through tally sheets
  ➢ Prizes awarded for milestones

• Class performance:
  ➢ Tally sheets track classroom participation levels
  ➢ Monthly prize baskets for highest performing class

• School performance:
  ➢ The Stomping Cup Trophy
  ➢ Award ceremony for the highest performing class for the year
Roosevelt Elementary data

Number of walkers/bikers at one school has tripled since program inception

# of Walkers (May 2016 – September 2019)

- May 2016: 80
- August 2016: 98
- August 2017: 212
- August 2018: 230
- September 2019: 249

3.1x Increase
### Additional partner school data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner School</th>
<th>Launch date</th>
<th>Average # of walkers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broward Elementary</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grady Elementary</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Elementary</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pride Elementary</td>
<td>November 2018</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerfield Crossings Elementary</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa Bay Blvd. Elementary</td>
<td>March 2019</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Encouragement

• Walker celebrations with stickers, pencils, reflectors, bike bells
• Classroom celebration with baskets of “active” recess toys: balls, jump ropes, hula hoops, sidewalk chalk, frisbees
• Year-end celebration with trophy and event
Support

- Walking School Bus
- Walk to School Parade
- Road Safety Program
- Safety Education and Safety Days

Pedestrian Safety Skills:
- Whenever possible, walk with a group to be more visible to traffic.
- Use sidewalks; where there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic on the side of the road.
- Watch for cars pulling out of driveways.
- Look left-right-left when crossing the street.
- Cross at crosswalks. Wherever possible, cross at a stop light with a walk signal.
- Wait for a break in the traffic before crossing the street, even at a crosswalk.
  - Remember: traffic coming from the opposite direction may not stop for you!
- When crossing at a light, wait for the walk signal.
  - Remember: traffic may still turn left or right through the crosswalk!
- Most importantly: stay alert! Be responsible for your own safety. Don’t depend on cars to follow traffic rules or watch out for you.

Thank you to Florida Department of Transportation and Safe Routes to School for help in compiling this pedestrian safety information.
Our core values

**Community engagement**
- School transportation is a community effort

**Student volunteerism**
- Students help run the program

**Road safety education**
- Learn pedestrian skills and rules on the road

**Advocacy**
- Safer routes for more walkers
More school zone pedestrians means:

A need for safety infrastructure...
Safer routes to school!

- Crosswalks, new and enhanced
- School zone signage
- Better walk signals at lights
- More 4-way stops
Our partner schools

- Roosevelt Elementary School
- Pride Elementary School
- Mitchell Elementary School
- Grady Elementary School
- Broward Elementary School
- Tampa Bay Boulevard Elementary
- Summerfield Crossings Elementary School
- Carrollwood Elementary School
- Mabry Elementary School
- Coleman Middle School
Expanding our program to other schools in our community requires a **serious investment in safety infrastructure** – specifically:

1. Safety infrastructure improvements
2. Crossing guards
3. Administrative support / district support
4. Volunteer or paid positions to staff project
5. Financial support for lower income schools
2020-21 Plans

1. Identify additional partner schools
2. Build funding, partnership, and volunteer opportunities
3. Grow advocacy efforts to bring walkability to more school communities