



Dear Parents,

Our school is offering an exciting opportunity called the Waverly-Belmont Walk Bike program, or (WB)². In order to encourage students to walk or bike safely to school and decrease morning traffic around the school, we are organizing parent volunteers to walk with students along designated routes. It is like a walking or biking bus.

What is (WB)²?

(WB)² is made up of one or more parent leaders, who gather students at designated stops along a specific route and walk with them to school.

Who are the drivers?

The 'drivers' are parent volunteers who commit to walking or biking with students one or more days a week.

How does it work?

There will be designated stops for children to gather. The 'driver' will start at the beginning of the route and pickup children along the way. The 'driver' will not go directly to houses, but will pick children up at stops on various corners in the neighborhood. (WB)² will run rain-or-shine each morning and afternoon year-round (except on late start days). Children can use the program every day or as many days as the family schedule allows. (WB)² will be established on the routes most heavily used by students and will be dependent upon the availability of volunteers.

Are you interested?

We would like to hear from you if you are interested in sending you children to walk with the group. If there is enough interest, we plan to start two or more routes at the beginning of school. We also plan to hold at least one practice day before the start of school.

Can you volunteer?

Since this is a free service, led by volunteers, we are also looking for parents who can volunteer to lead the routes. We need volunteers who are available in the morning or afternoon- whether it is daily, once a week or once a month, we could use your help! There will be a coordinator to organize parent volunteer leaders for each walking or biking route.

Volunteers and interested parents are welcome to attend an informational meeting prior to the kick off of (WB)². Check the school newsletter for coming details.

Thanks,
Team (WB)²

Frequently Asked Questions

What if my child wants to participate, but I am not able to walk with the kids?

That's okay. Other parents have volunteered to participate so we can assure your child will walk with a group of kids having one or more adults.

Does my child have to walk both to and from school to participate?

No. We realize that students have schedules that include day care, after-school programs, lessons and appointments. Children can participate in (WB)² whenever it fits their schedules. We have designed the program to allow for flexibility.

What if the weather is bad?

(WB)² runs rain or shine! Students are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather and pack an umbrella for unexpected weather and outer clothing appropriate for the season. Be sure to check the morning news for school cancellations in the winter. (WB)² will not run on late start days or when school is delayed due to snow.

What if I don't feel comfortable letting my child walk with another adult? Volunteers register with PTO and are usually other parents. Volunteers will undergo background checks. You may choose to withdraw your child at any time if you are not comfortable with any situation, or better yet, volunteer to be a 'driver' or get involved to meet other volunteers. Teach your child personal safety rules. Report any unusual activity to the school office.

I'm interested in having my child participate, but I don't want to be confined by a rigid schedule.

No problem. As stated earlier, the program is flexible! Changes can be made as needed. Send your child on the program on the days you choose. When coming home with (WB)² we encourage you to make plans in advance with your child to minimize last minute changes and communications. However, if there is an emergency at the last minute, please contact the school office before the end of the day to instruct your child of the change in plans.

Can I walk with my child if I am not the "driver"?

Of course you are welcome to walk along or just meet your child at the "stop." If you would like to walk with the group on a regular basis, we ask that you register at school as a volunteer.

I'm interested in "driving." How do I sign up?

Email PTO at waverlybelmontelementary@gmail.com. A driver database will be kept which includes the driver's name, address and phone number, the days and times the volunteers are available to walk, and the routes for which each volunteer is interested in leading.

How do I "drive" with (WB)²?

There will be a short orientation to the responsibilities of (WB)², which will include a route map, schedule, safety rules, reporting disciplinary issues, and an orientation.