

## **IDLE FREE ZONES**

In the interest of reducing energy consumption and protecting the air quality around our school facilities, Beautiful Plains School Division has adopted this policy on the unnecessary idling of school buses and private and division owned vehicles.

All School Bus loading zones will be posted as "No Idle Zones" to which school division staff and the public are to adhere.

The following is guidance to School Bus Drivers and operators of other Division vehicles:

- When school bus drivers arrive at loading/unloading areas, they should turn off their buses as soon as possible to eliminate idling times. The school bus will be restarted when loading of students commences or after all students have been unloaded if the bus driver is not leaving the area immediately.
- Buses are to be started only long enough before route/extracurricular trip departure to allow for completion of the pre-trip inspection. For cold weather start up idling time should be limited to that which is outlined by the manufacturer.
- Buses should not idle while waiting for students during field trips and extracurricular activities. Buses are to be started when loading of students commences.
- If warmth of the bus is an issue in cold weather, idling is to be kept at a minimum and should occur outside the no idle zone. The warmed bus is to enter the bus loading zone as close to pick up time as possible to maintain warmth.
- Other school division vehicles are not to be idled near school buildings except where the vehicle needs to maintain a temperature above freezing to protect its contents.

Approved October 17, 2006