

Motor Vehicle Idling

The Board recognizes that it can play an important role in reducing environmental pollutants and fostering the health and well-being of students and staff of the district.

Vehicle exhaust is the source of almost half of all toxic air pollutants in Oregon.¹ Studies have shown that idling vehicles significantly decrease air quality not only within and around vehicles, but also in nearby buildings.² Vehicles idling on school property (e.g., during pick-up and drop-off) emit toxins harmful to human health.³ Chemicals in vehicle exhaust can worsen asthma symptoms and contribute to other breathing problems⁴ (asthma is the most common noncommunicable disease among children and affects more than 30 million adults in the U.S.⁵). Exposure to these chemicals also increases the risk of death from cardiovascular disease, lung disease and cancer.⁶ Furthermore, idling vehicles waste energy while contributing to smog and global warming.

Therefore, a goal of the Board is to eliminate unnecessary idling by ensuring that this practice is minimized in all aspects of motor vehicle operation on district property, school buses and by operators of district owned vehicles.

The superintendent shall develop administrative regulations consistent with this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, Pub. L. No. 108-447, 118 Stat. 2809

¹Oregon DEQ-"Idling Fact Sheet" (<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/factsheets/10nwr004.pdf>)

²Oregon Environmental Council-"Idling Fact Sheet"
(<http://www.oeonline.org/resources/publications/kitsandtipsarchive/antiidlingkit-web>)

³U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- "Mobile Source Air Toxics" (<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/toxics.htm>)

⁴Environment & Human Health, Inc.-"The Harmful Effects of Vehicle Exhaust" (<http://www.ehhi.org/reports/exhaust/exhaust06.pdf>)

⁵World Health Organization-"Asthma Fact Sheet" (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs307/en/>)

⁶Many sources summarized in "The Harmful Effects of Vehicle Exhaust" (see footnote 4)