



# CALIFORNIA CLEAN AIR DAY

A PROJECT OF THE COALITION FOR CLEAN AIR

## SCHOOL & SCHOOL DISTRICT TOOLKIT

Every child has the right to breathe clean air. By partnering with Clean Air Day, schools and school districts can start a new conversation about the causes of air pollution and practical steps to reduce pollution around students.

School leaders (parents, teachers, administrators, etc.) are essential partners in improving the air quality at schools and within districts. By working collectively, just a handful of school leaders can change the lives and improve the health of tens of thousands of students across California.

“It is important for our district to take a stand and be an example when it comes to health and safety for our students”

*LAUSD Board President Dr. Richard Vladovic*

We understand the daily challenges school administrators face and time can be limited. The following guide is designed to help School Districts take steps towards generating better air quality.

## **SCHOOL AND SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOURCE GUIDE:**

- Ask teachers to discuss Clean Air Day in their classrooms and encourage their students to take the Kid's Clean Air Day Pledge.
- Select 3 or more action items that are appropriate for your school to focus on for Clean Air Day
- Complete the Action Plan shown below to map out implementation of those actions
- Encourage teachers, parents, and employees to join you and take the Clean Air Day pledge as well as make their own commitments

### **REDUCE AIR POLLUTION AT THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE**

- Stop vehicles from idling near school entrances or parking lots
- Set up a walking/biking to school challenge for students
- Establish a school drop off point away from the main walking route
- Reduce the number of deliveries to school and ensure they arrive at non-peak times

### **REDUCE AIR POLLUTION ON SCHOOL GROUNDS:**

- Enforce a no-idling policy on school grounds - especially for school buses
- Ensure classroom air conditioning filters are changed on a regular schedule
- Have the school maintenance crew replace gas-powered lawn mowers with electric lawn mowers
- Ensure contractors reduce the impact of building work by limiting the use of diesel generators and suppressing dust
- For school improvement projects, read paint labels and choose a coating that contains little or no volatile organic compound (VOCs)
- Install free air quality monitors

## PROMOTE CLEAN AIR ON CAMPUS:

- Use social media and other communications to promote clean air and Clean Air Day to students and parents using our social media toolkit or your own resources California Clean Air Day is an initiative of the Coalition for Clean Air. [www.ccair.org](http://www.ccair.org)
- Start a No Vaping Campaign
- Sign up for air quality alerts and report daily air quality to students
- Sign up to participate in the Coalition for Clean Air STEM Program
- Talk to students about how their health is affected by poor air quality and what they can do to help clean the air

## TEACH STUDENTS CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY ABOUT CLEAN AIR:

- Encourage students to write to their Mayors about their concern for Air Quality in their communities and steps to improve it
- Encourage School Board Members to pass an idle-free school resolution
- Sign up to become a member of the Coalition for Clean Air

## ACTION PLAN:

Action Item	Timeline	Responsible	Budget
[e.g. replace maintenance tools with electric equipment]	[October 2023]	[Vice Principal]	[\$750]