Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region



2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT

School Travel Planning

Prepared by the School Travel Planning Team
at Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region
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November 17, 2025
www.stswr.ca/walkzone

This report was prepared in an industrial office located 470 meters from the Grand River and the work it describes is performed across Waterloo region; lands traditionally used by the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Chonnonton People. As treaty people and uninvited guests, we acknowledge the enduring presence of the Indigenous people with whom we share this land. We appreciate their deep traditional knowledge, laws, and philosophies, which among other things teach us that when we walk upon the land, we come into a relationship with it and that the way we step upon this earth matters.

"Even if the grassland has been ploughed under, even if you're passing canola fields…you can still feel the sun on your face, see the sky, hear the birds, sense the gentle contours of the land in the muscles in the legs…You're not alone when you're walking by yourself. You're with the land and it is with you." 1

1 Wilson, K. (2021). Walking as Embodied Territorial Acknowledgment: Thinking about Place-Based Relationships from the Side of the Road. Performance Matters, 7(1-2), 97–115. https://doi.org/10.7202/1085315ar

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About Us

School Travel Planning (STP) at Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) aims to make active travel part of every child's school journey.

Active travel on the daily school journey fosters healthy habits, builds road skills, reduces traffic congestion near schools, minimizes environmental impacts, and increases academic performance. School Travel Planning is a cycle of public engagement and intervention that iteratively works to create safer routes to school and make active travel an easier choice for families.



This report reflects the collective efforts of students, parents, schools, municipalities and school boards to create greater use of active school travel. Through STP, these efforts become balanced and focused for better outcomes.

We are grateful to our funding partners for contributions to programs and personnel, and for their ongoing expert insights and supportive work. Funding partners include Regional Municipality of Waterloo (RoW), City of Cambridge (CoC), City of Kitchener (CoK), City of Waterloo (CoW), Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WRDSB), and Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB).

Find out more about our services and programs at www.stswr.ca/walkzone, and for a description of our STP method, see Appendix A.

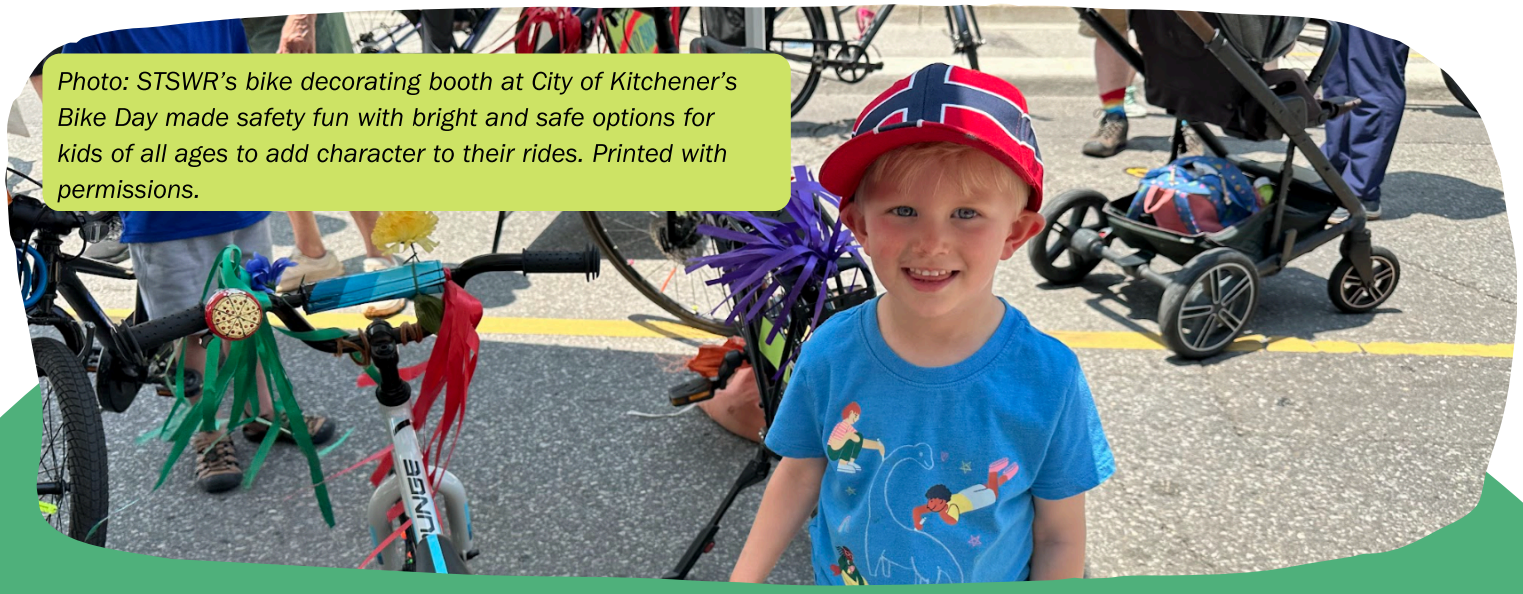


Photo: STSWR's bike decorating booth at City of Kitchener's Bike Day made safety fun with bright and safe options for kids of all ages to add character to their rides. Printed with permissions.

STSWR Vision

To be the beacon of excellence in multi-modal student transportation, setting the standard for safety, sustainability and innovation.

STP Aspiration

One day, every child will walk or wheel as part of their daily school journey.

Shared Values

Trust
Safety
Reliability
Environmental sustainability
Equity
Efficiency
Exceptional customer service



Our Team

The School Travel Planning team at STSWR comprises three dynamic individuals who work together with rightsholders to bring great ideas to life. They are driven to bring people together so they can tap into local community knowledge, find common ground and make active school travel an easier choice for families across the region.

Group Facilitation
Student Instruction
Communications
Event Coordination
Map Building
Solution Development
Leadership
Data Collection
Traffic Flow Consultation

This work cannot be completed without the untold students, caregivers, school staff, and community partners who give of themselves and find creative ways to make good things happen.

Community building
Creative problem solving
Volunteer hours/days/weeks
Financial contributions



Keith Prudham

STSWR
General Manager



Leslie Maxwell

STP Supervisor



Hayat Shariff

School Travel
Planner



Ashley Cullen

School Travel
Planner



Students

Heart of STP



Caregivers

Key Decision
Makers



Administrators

Communications
Leads



Partners

Benefactors and
Defenders

Executive Summary

The 2024–25 STP Annual Report highlights a year of significant growth in active school travel initiatives across Waterloo Region. With 92 schools now having participated, STSWR strengthened its evidence-based approach by sharing its first reliable year-over-year mode-shift data. Data show clear gains in active travel at several schools, especially those with robust, multi-year action plans that combine efforts in Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Reinforcement, and Evaluation. Updated branding, improved instructional materials, and expanded staff capacity contributed to more cohesive and effective delivery of STP initiatives.

Student engagement reached new heights through large-scale events and skill-building programs. Winter Walk Day messaging reached over 21,000 students, while Bike to School Week produced a measurable surge in cycling, with bike-rack counts nearly tripling during the event week. The new Walk for the Earth campaign added a sustainability-focused celebration, engaging 333 students who collectively walked more than 660 km. Schools also benefitted from enhanced safety programs: over 1,100 Grade 3–4 students received Sidewalk Smarts pedestrian training, nearly 1,000 participated in bike-safety education, and 338 students served as Trailblazers or CAA Foot Patrollers. These programs demonstrate STSWR's commitment to equipping students with the skills and confidence needed for safe, independent mobility.

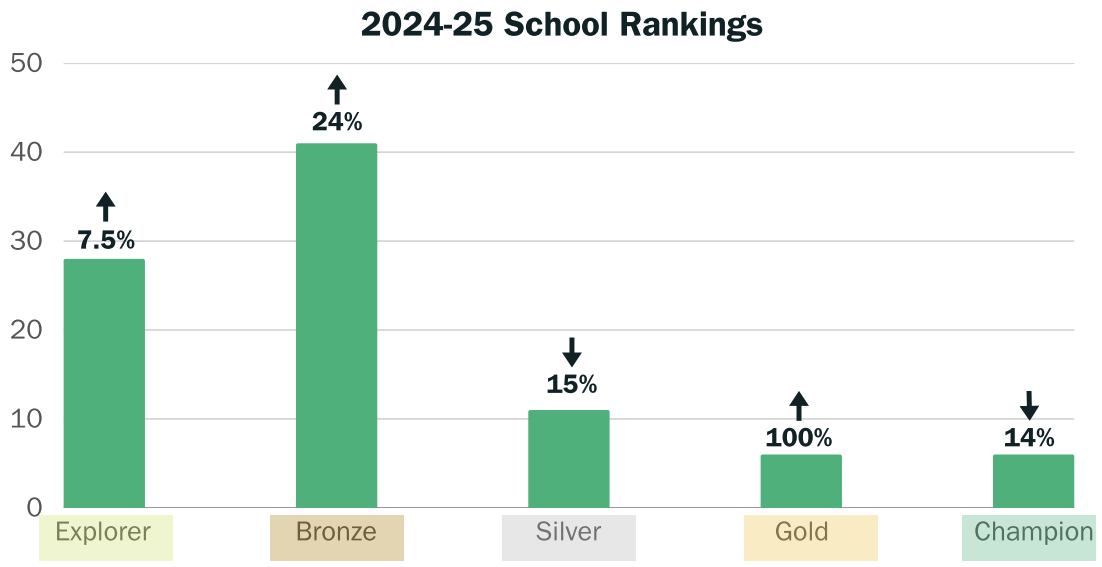
System-level actions further advanced the region's STP efforts. STSWR contributed data and expertise to municipal partners to support initiatives such as Automated Speed Enforcement, Vision Zero, and provincial school-zone safety research. Engineering upgrades, such as the new multi-use pathway at Chicopee Hills (page 17), show how coordinated advocacy can transform risky routes into safe, accessible corridors. Financial support from municipalities and school boards enabled the expansion of STP Planner roles to full-year positions, ensuring greater continuity and responsiveness. Looking ahead, STSWR plans to scale proven strategies, enhance safety education, expand mapping resources, and explore School Streets pilots. Together, these efforts position the region for continued progress toward the long-term vision that every child walks or wheels as part of their daily school journey.



Sidewalk Smarts pedestrian skills training is delivered between January-March when snow and ice provide additional learning opportunities.

School Rankings

Our School Travel Planners work with school communities to complete actions that will make an impact on participation in active travel and traffic at the school site. An effective and complete STP action plan includes a balance of Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Reinforcement, and Evaluation. A description of our biggest programs can be found in Appendix B. To encourage a good balance of STP actions, the STP Team awards points and weightings for each action completed, which culminates in an overall ranking. Actions that don't need to be completed twice (e.g. new crosswalk) earn lifetime points while other actions must be repeated annually (e.g. Winter Walk Day) or biennially (e.g. Sidewalk Smarts) to be reflected in their ranking.



Ten new schools joined the effort to suppress traffic and encourage active travel in the 2024-25 school year and since 2016, 92 schools have participated in the STP process. This marks a tipping point where more schools have requested our help than have not. Most schools never leave the STP family as they continue to participate in education and encouragement actions so that new students and new families receive support, and a strong walking culture continues.

2024-25 rankings indicate that more schools than ever are taking action and making good things happen. Explorer, Bronze, and Gold rankings increased in numbers this year while the numbers of Silver and Champion schools fell. We are very proud of all these schools finding the time to dedicate to children's safety, wellness, and independent mobility.

For a list of all school rankings, please refer to Appendix B.

Rankings by Board

	Explorer	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Champion	Total ranked	Unranked	Total
WRDSB	19	25	5	5	6	60	62	122
WCDSB	9	16	6	1	0	32	20	52
Totals	**28**	**41**	**11**	**6**	**6**	**92**	**82**	**174**

Rankings by Municipality

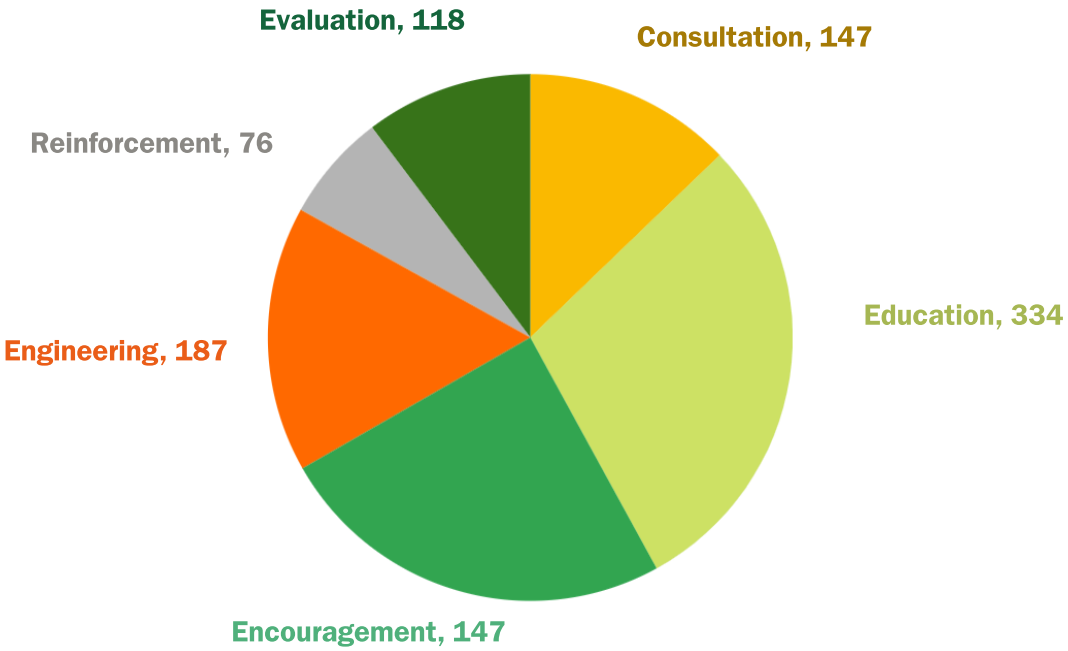
	Explorer	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Champion	Total ranked	Unranked	Total
Kitchener	13	19	4	2	5	43	31	74
Waterloo	3	10	2	2	1	18	14	32
Cambridge	10	10	4	1	0	25	20	45
North Dumfries	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	3
Woolwich	1	1	1	0	0	3	7	10
Wellesley	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Wilmot	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	7
Totals	**28**	**41**	**11**	**6**	**6**	**92**	**82**	**174**

Participating schools come from both WCDSB and WRDSB and all area municipalities, including Waterloo region townships; rankings vary based on the level of engagement, which is often driven by school need and community capacity.



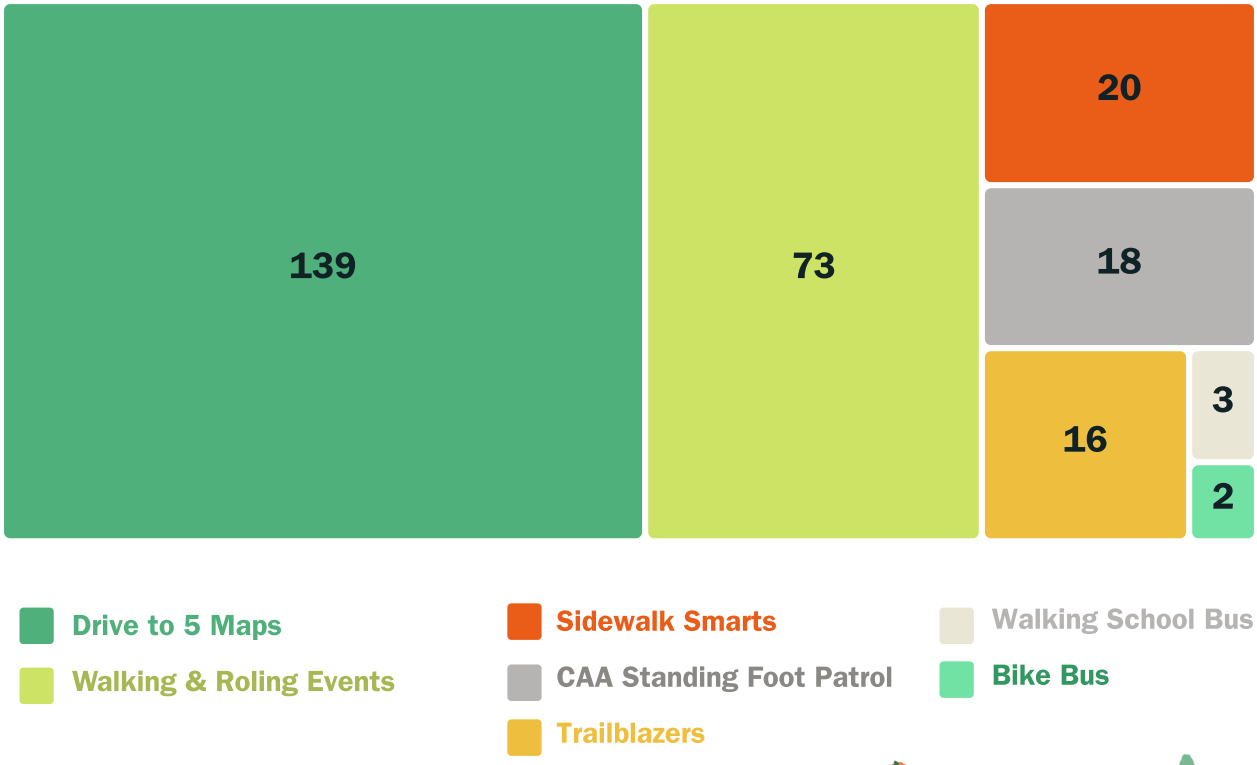
Photo: Elizabeth Ziegler P.S. endured construction for traffic calming including raised crosswalks and shorter crossings. Safety is improved and the streets are ready for students to return.

Number of Interventions



Eleven hundred and forty five (1145) actions qualified schools for their rankings this year. Engineering action points are valid for a lifetime because they rarely need to upgrade further; other actions must be repeated biennially or annually. These numbers represent an enormous amount of work by STP Planners, school communities, and partners.

School Participation in Select Programs



Some programs and actions appeal to a wide array of schools. Drive to 5 maps show legal and safe parking areas a short distance from the school and are requested at many schools. Walking and rolling events continue to be popular ways for schools to engage students and now include Winter Walk Day, Walk for the Earth, and Bike to School Week. Eleven (11) schools participated in Sidewalk Smarts in 2025, but the 9 schools that participated in 2024 are also counted here because the program is taught to both grades 3 and 4 their participation is current. In addition to the major programs, three Walking School Buses and two Bike Buses gave students a chance to practice road skills and learn new routes while having fun and socializing on the way to school.

For a full list of programs and their descriptions, please see Appendix C.



Student Engagement

Student Travel Modes

Student engagement is perhaps best illustrated by the number of students who travel actively to school regularly. In October, 2024, STP Planners collected mode split data by show of hand on a single day at 25-30 schools, indicating that **44% of Waterloo region students used active travel for the school journey**, just slightly ahead of the Canadian average of 43%.

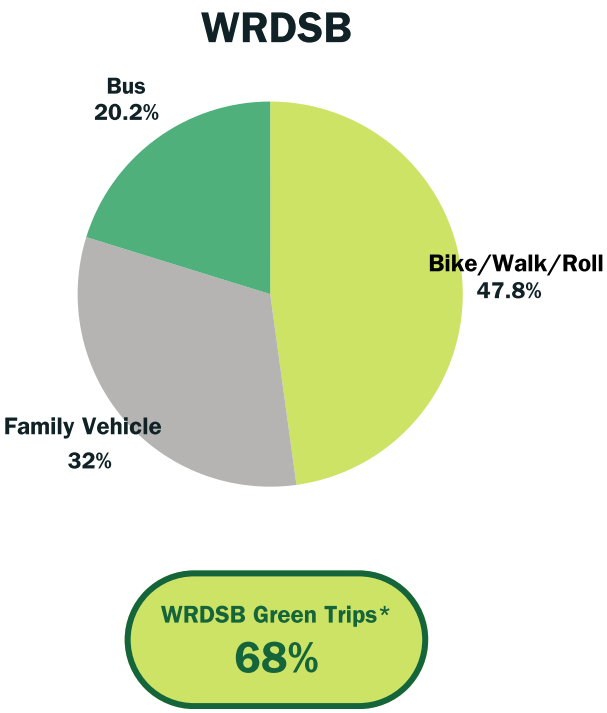
According to Participaction's 2024 Child and Youth Report Card:

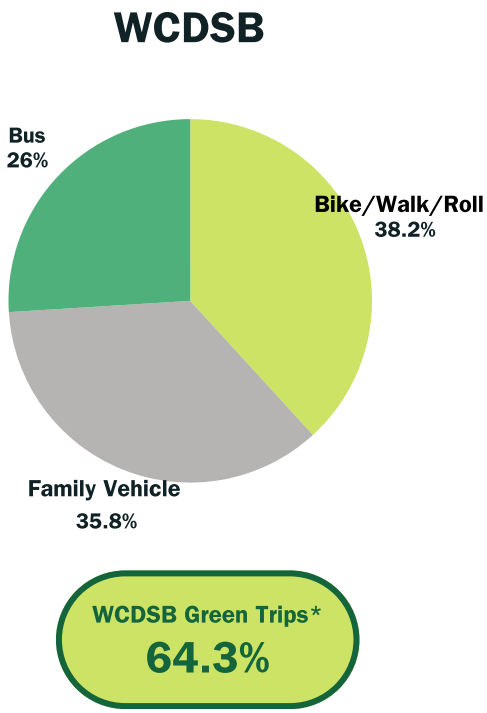
- 43% of Canadian children aged 5-17 years attending in-person school either solely use active transportation to commute to school or combine active travel with other modes.
- 50% of caregivers in larger municipalities report they use active travel.
- 32% of caregivers in smaller communities report they use active travel.

Green Trips = active travel trips + bus trips

STP's "Green Trip" score may better compare school performance across size and density of school catchment areas by including bus trips. The 2024 data set indicates **67% of Waterloo region students arrive by sustainable modes**.

Conversely, that means an average **33% of Waterloo students traveled by family vehicle**. Extrapolation of this data indicates around 30,130 students travel by family vehicle; a number we are determined to reduce.



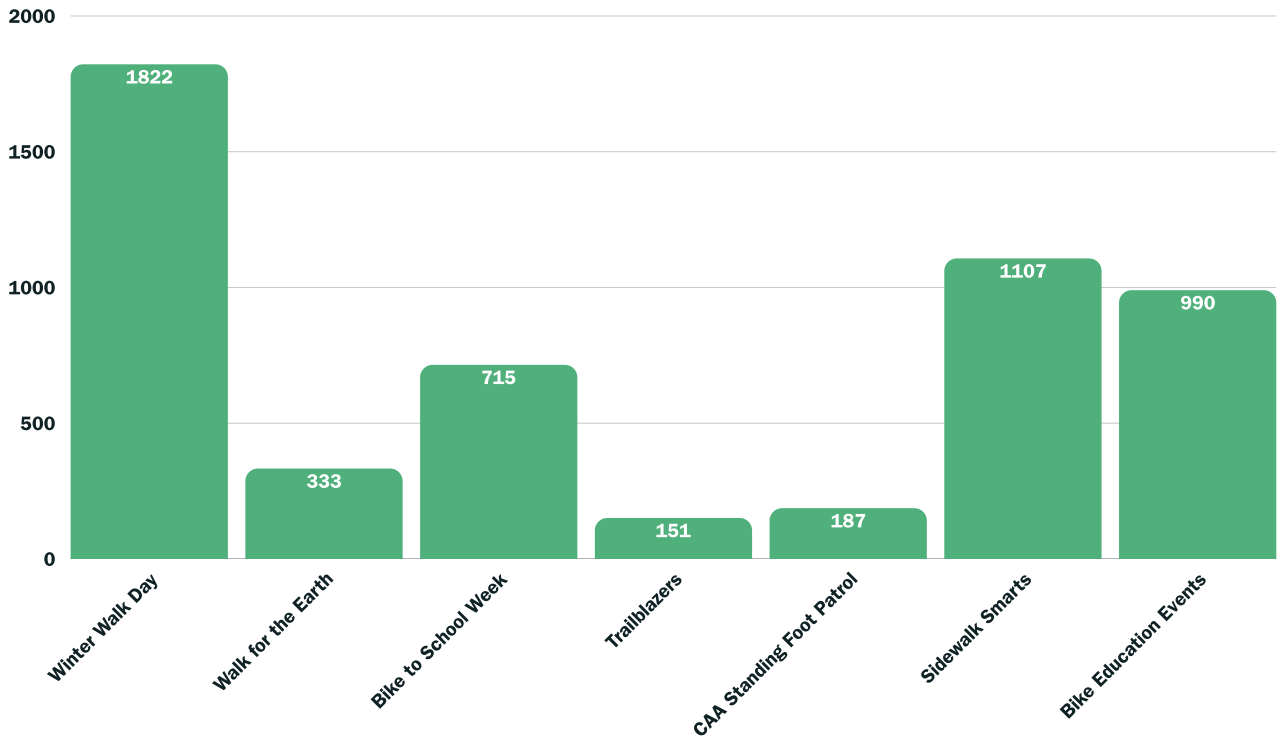


*Bike/Walk/Roll trips plus bus trips

Student Participation in Programs

Students participate in a variety of ways across the region, including by walking and rolling to school regularly, and by showing their enthusiasm for active travel through events and programs. Our first and biggest event of the year was **Winter Walk Day**, shared with **21,301 students** at **47 schools** this year and whose contest was entered by **1822** students. Those students walked a collective **140,192** kilometres that day!

Student Participants Per Program

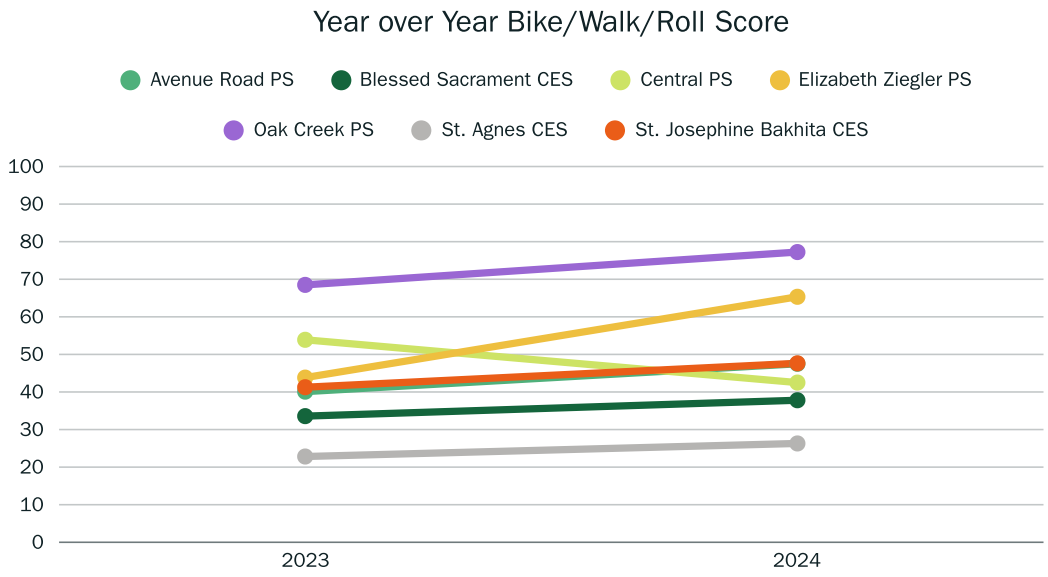


STSWR's first Walk for the Earth event engaged **333** students who reported **665+ kilometers** walked on Earth Day. Bike to School Week was held on the last week of May, attracting a massive **715** registrants who pledged to ride **23,083 kilometers**.

Students also participate in educational programs to learn skills that help them use active travel or to act as safety patrollers. This year, we trained 151 Trailblazers who walked to school daily, donning class 2 traffic vests to create a more visible school commute and to show their peers that they are there to help if needed. In addition, **187** CAA Foot Patrollers were trained to identify safe times to cross streets and parking lots. Finally, STSWR delivered Sidewalk Smarts pedestrian skills training to **1107** students in Grades 3 + 4, and bike safety education to **around 990** students at various school and regional bike education events.

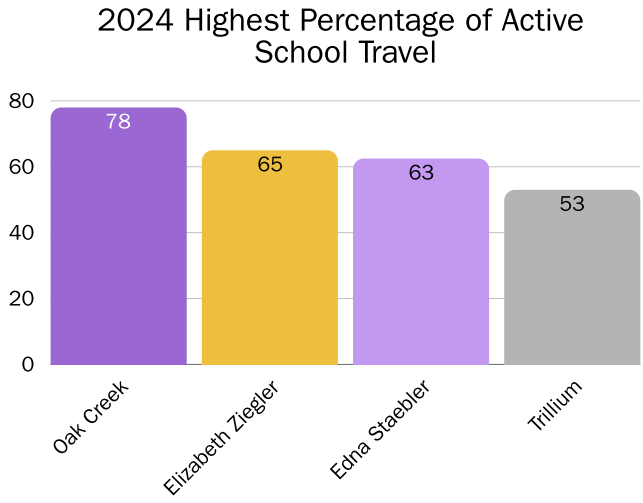
Mode Shift

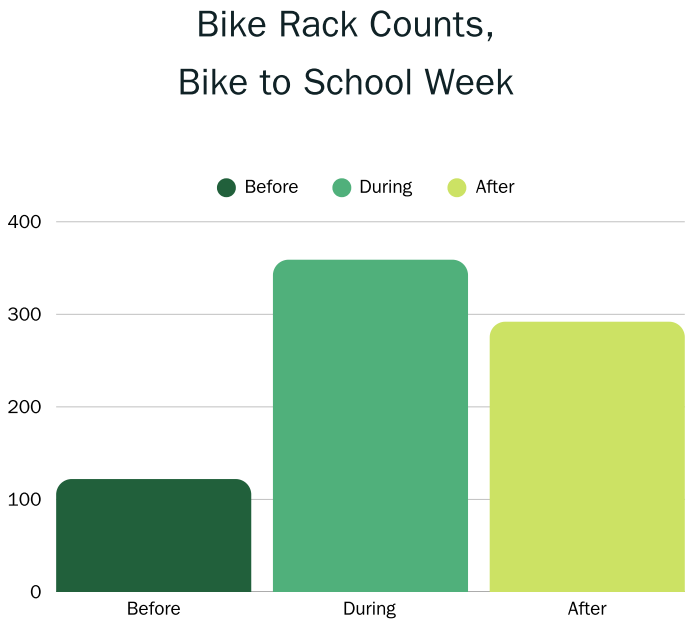
STSWR collects mode shift data at a couple dozen schools every October. Year over year Bike/Walk/Roll data is available at a handful of schools and hints at a tendency* for scores to improve at schools that introduce STP interventions. Schools for which both 2023 and 2024 data is available are shown below. Of these, Oak Creek, Elizabeth Ziegler, and St. Agnes introduced more STP interventions, achieving rankings of **Champion**, **Gold** and **Silver**; while the others were less involved with STP as indicated by their Bronze rankings.



Most schools with comparative data show an increase in active travel over one year with School Travel Planning interventions. The outlier, Central P.S., may have been impacted by extreme environmental factors.

Four WRDSB schools led the way in active travel, earning **Champion**, **Gold**, and **Silver** STP rankings by putting diverse and effective action plans into practice. These schools soar above the 2024 regional average of 44%.





Several participating schools counted the number of bikes in their storage racks 1 week before (n. 122), during (n. 359), and 1 week after (n. 292) Bike to School Week, demonstrating a significant rise in number of cyclists during the week and a residual effect of continued cycling even after the encouragement period was over.





Photo: Bike to school week encouraged students to ride to school, filling storage racks with hundreds of bikes.

Highlights

Walk for the Earth Event

Sustainable Encouragement



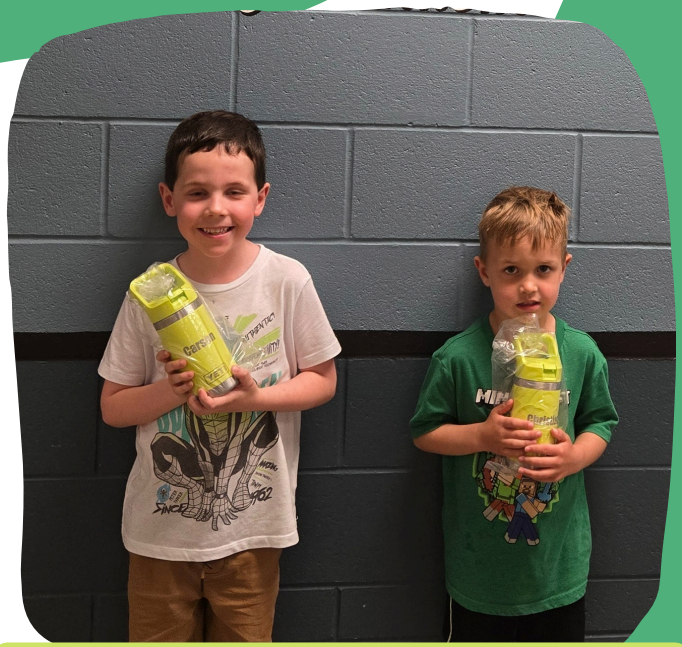


Photo: At John Sweeney C.E.S., TWO students each won a personalized, engraved water bottle—promoting both reusability and healthy hydration while enjoying the outdoors. Shared with permissions by school.

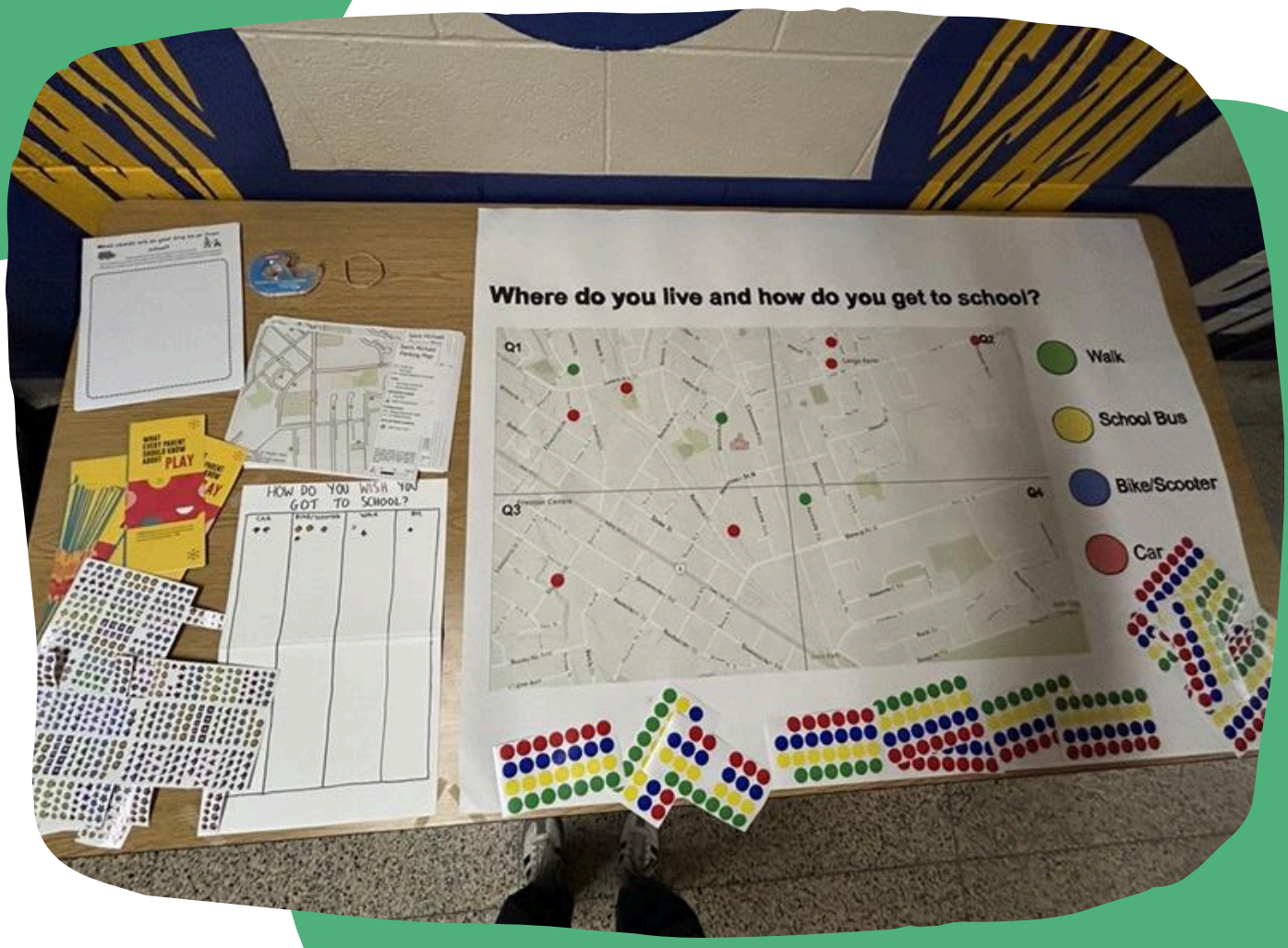
Walk for the Earth is a new encouragement event held on or near Earth Day in Waterloo Region, that invites families to celebrate sustainability through walking, wheeling, and exploring their community together. Walk for the Earth encourages participants to leave the car at home and discover how simple, active choices—like walking or cycling—can make a big difference for the planet and for personal health.

Walk for the Earth is promoted directly to families and in its inaugural year, 333 students participated, pledging to walk a collective 664.5 kilometres to school in a single day. With the chance to earn cool prizes, Walk for the Earth turns environmental education into an engaging family adventure—one step at a time toward a greener future.

St. Michael C.E.S.

Engaging Evaluation

At St. Michael C.E.S., students took part in an interactive planning and data collection evaluation activity designed to explore how they travel to school. Using coloured stickers, participants marked approximately where they lived and identified their usual mode of travel—green for walking, yellow for taking the school bus, blue for biking or scootering, and red for traveling by car. Afterwards, students shared how they wished they could get to school by adding their choices to a sticker tally sheet. Bike and Scooter was their top choice! This engaging exercise offered valuable insight into both current travel habits and students' transportation preferences, helping to guide future active school travel planning efforts.



Chicopee Hills

Engineering for Safety

New Multi Use Pathway at Chicopee Hills

Caregivers at Chicopee Hills PS worked through STP to advocate for a safer route along Fairway Road by collecting data on the street, surveying families, and attending meetings with municipal staff. The Region of Waterloo verified their observations and remediated the problem. What was once a narrow sidewalk beside 60 kph posted speeds is now a wider multi-use pathway with an additional painted buffer between traffic and 40 kph posted speeds. Families and children can now walk, bike (in both directions!), and roll more comfortably without fear of passing cars. This success saw a stressful route transform into a welcoming space that encourages active, sustainable travel and that is used by hundreds of students each day.



Photo: The old sidewalk required extra crossings and distance for cyclists, and at the bridge its narrowing and a misplaced light standard pushed pedestrians into the painted bike lane.



Photo: The new multi use pathway allows safe passage for crowds of pedestrians and cyclists in both directions.

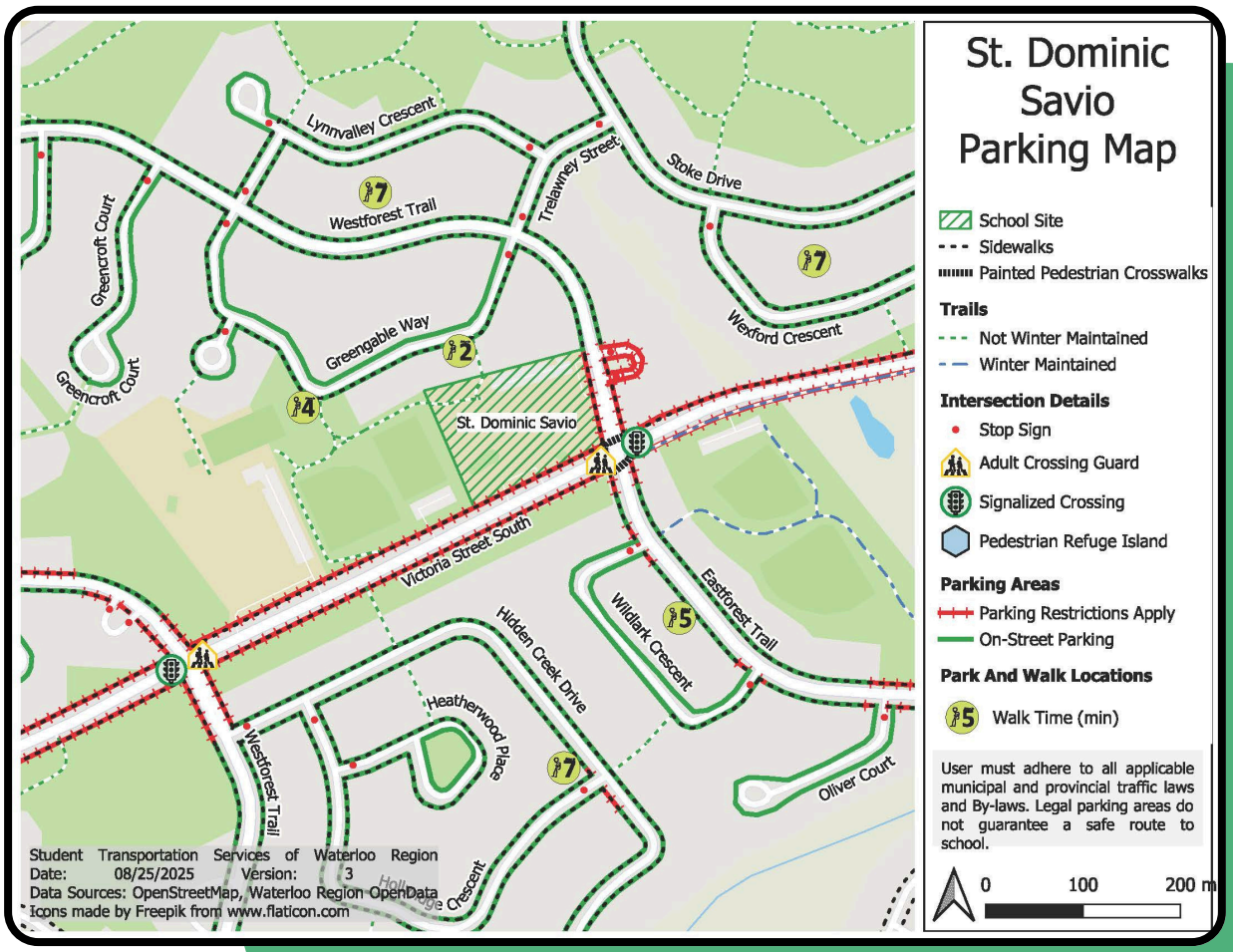
St. Dominic

Drive to 5 Encouragement

Repurposed Drop Off

St. Dominic's growing needs required repurposing a drop-off loop to provide sufficient space for specialized transport buses to safely load and unload students safely. STP led a series of close collaboration and consultation interactions between multiple stakeholders including school administration; City of Kitchener Transportation Planners; WCDSB Planners and Health and Safety Officers; and STSWR Transportation Planners.

To support families through the transition, the school promoted the use of the Drive-to-5 program as an alternative for drop-off. Subsequent site visits show a significant increase in "park and walk locations" reflecting high community uptake and improved site operations.



Oak Creek

Reinforcement with Input

Having fun and gaining insight

At Oak Creek's 2024–25 Spring Fair, an STP Planner hosted an expanded active travel booth designed to showcase the school's strong commitment to active school travel. The booth featured information about the STP action plan items Oak Creek has successfully completed and displayed key data collected at the school—including its impressive BikeWalkRoll score that indicates 77.7% of students walked or rolled to school (a regional high score!).

Students also placed colour-coded stickers on a large boundary map to show where they live and how they normally travel to school. This visual activity sparked conversations with families about active travel patterns, neighbourhood routes, and opportunities to enhance safety.

Action/Initiative	Tasks	Person Responsible	Proposed Dates	Resources or Cost	Notes/Implementation Status
GOAL: Maintain strong AST culture and encourage new families to choose AST through education and community building initiatives					
Education					
School Council Presentation	- Prepare presentation - Include interventions, proposed ideas - Green Scores	Ashley	Spring 2023 Winter 2025		Introduction to STP General updates, including Green Score
Kindergarten Magnets	Organize by school (JK) and distribute through interoffice mail or at the all Admin Assistants' meeting	Leslie (ordering) STP staff (updating, packing and distributing)	Annual	STSWR - magnets	Delivery by first week of school
Trailblazers	- Invite school to register - Send school registration form - Schedule all registered schools - Create/update curbside route maps - Deliver program	School admin Ashley	2025-2026 2024-2025 2023-2024 2022-2023	STSWR costs - Kahoot subscription, vests	Sep 2025 - one grade 8 student has been a Trailblazer at Oak Creek since it's opening year
Sidewalk Smarts			Winter 2023 Winter 2025		
Grand Opening - End of Year Celebration	- Put together booth info handouts and activities - Attend event and engage with parents about AST and STP	Ashley	June 2023	STSWR - print materials	Ashley participated in the organizing committee for this event starting in the New Year (2023). Also attended the Grand Opening ceremony during the school day.
Encouragement					
Winter Walk Day	Promote and register school, students Plan celebrations or an event	School staff STP support	2025 2024 2023	STSWR cost - posters, bubbles, foam hands School cost - additional materials	
Drive to 5 Maps	STSWR to update and draft a new Drive to 5 Map based on current conditions	STP Staff	Annual	STSWR hours	Oct 2025: Parent compaint that the map is inaccurate and there are new restrictions. Map is being reviewed.
Communications to Parents					
Spring Fair	- Prepare participatory planning-like activities for the school community to participate in at the spring fair	Ashley	May 2025	STSWR costs: - printing Drive to 5 maps - large boundary map	Jordan N. from Planning created the map that was displayed. - STP handouts - Large boundary map: choose a coloured sticker based on your mode of travel and add it to the map near your home - Parents: How did you get to school when you were your child's age and how long did it take?
Bike to School Week	Register school; promote among school community and encourage students to register	School staff	2025 2024 2023	STSWR cost - posters	
Sidewalk Smarts follow-on project	- Create posters and videos highlighting key teachings of the SWS program and educate peers	Chloe H. (Gr. 3 teacher)	Spring 2023	School cost - printing	Student work was displayed at the Grand Opening
Engineering					
Parking signage review	Ongoing due to neighbourhood being developed	Ashley CoK	2024	CoK if any	Tartan Ave.
Yard Signs	Student made slow down signs to display road side on school property		TBD		
Reinforcement					
Occasional Admin in parking lot and near street		School admin, staff	Annual		
Close lot with pylons		School admin, staff	Winter, spring 2025 (community centre)	School cost - pylons?	
Bylaw requests/strategy		School staff Community centre staff	Spring 2024 Winter 2025		

Oak Creek's action plan grew over 4 years into a multi-faceted approach to make active school travel an easier choice for families.



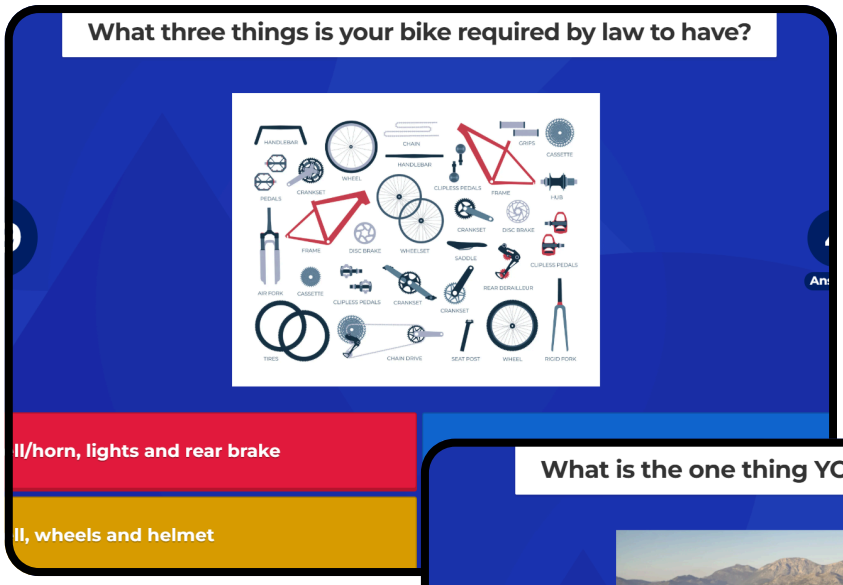
The map quickly filled with colour, offering a compelling snapshot of the school's active-travel community and reinforcing the importance of continued investment in safe walking and biking infrastructure.

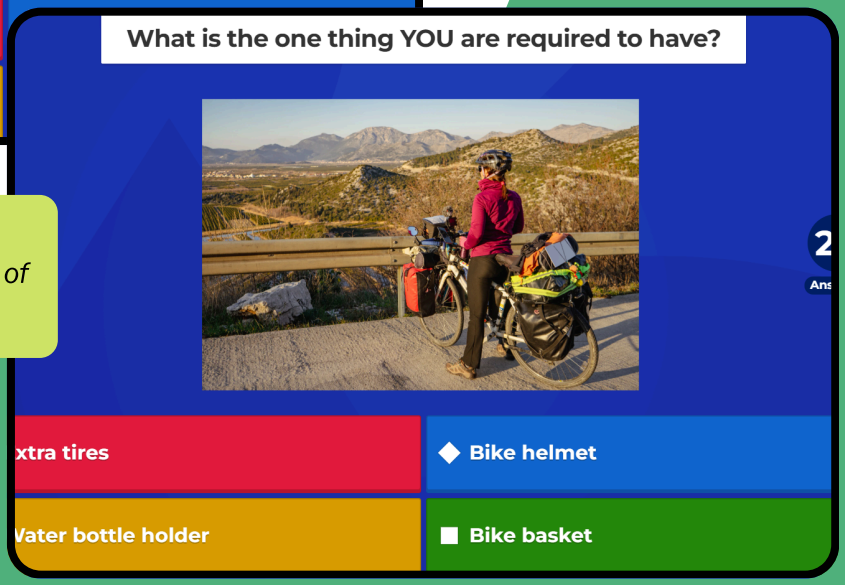
Wilson Avenue

School-wide Cycling Education

Interactive Engagement

Wilson Avenue hosted engaging cycling education sessions in their library for all students in Grades 1–6. All students learned about bike parts, proper helmet fitting, and the rules of the road through a fun, interactive Kahoot quiz led by a School Travel Planner. Junior students (Grades 4–6) took their learning a step further by exploring the concept of Right of Way through a hands-on activity that brought real-world cycling scenarios to life.





Kahoot! questions focused on the complexities, laws, and joy of cycling.

Systemic Actions

Our School Travel Planning team takes actions to advance active school travel-supportive laws, policies, and local practices. Here are some that we worked on in 2024-25.

STP Planner role expands

The STP Planner role was expanded from 10 months to full-year positions in order to support construction changes, new school builds, school personnel changes, and program improvements; all lending better continuity for school communities.

New Event - Walk for the Earth

Experiencing an active school commute can remind families how fun, healthy, and environmentally sustainable school travel can be. In its inaugural year, 333 students across the region participated in this new event.

Crossing Guard of the Year

The STP partnered with all cities and townships within the region and both WCDSB and WRDSB to honour its first Crossing Guard of the Year. Thirty-two (32) nominations were collected during Crossing Guard Appreciation Week in June, 2025 and the winner was Cathy M. in Wellesley.

Partner Events

STP participated in Waterloo Region Police Services' Bike Rodeo in April, 2025 and City of Kitchener's Bike Day in June 2025.

Cycling Education Review

Planning work has continued on development of a cycling education program that will target grades 5-6, with hopes that a pilot program can occur in fall, 2026.

Delegations

STP delegated to the Region of Waterloo and City of Kitchener, providing data and active school travel information to support Automated Speed Enforcement and Vision Zero.

School Safety Zones Public Survey

STSWR's STP team and the City of Hamilton co-led a province-wide survey, confirming earlier expert findings that current school-zone measures don't adequately curb risky behaviours. The results were shared with Active School Travel Canada in fall 2024.

Program Branding

STP introduced new branding to unify its programs and refreshed Sidewalk Smarts and Trailblazers with updated materials, skilled instructors, and a modern look.

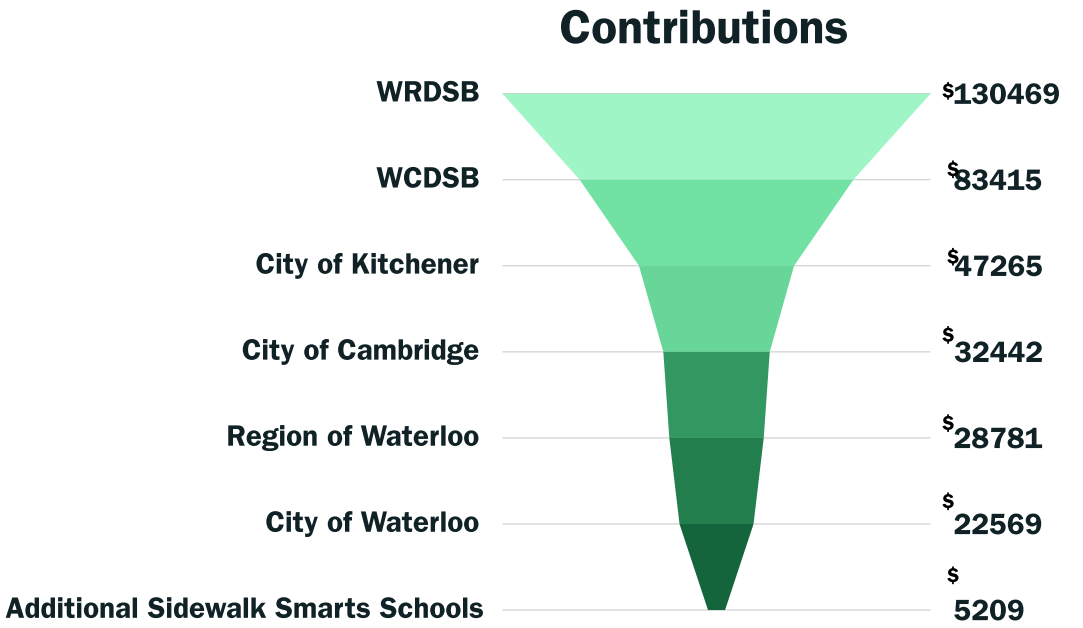
Input Provided

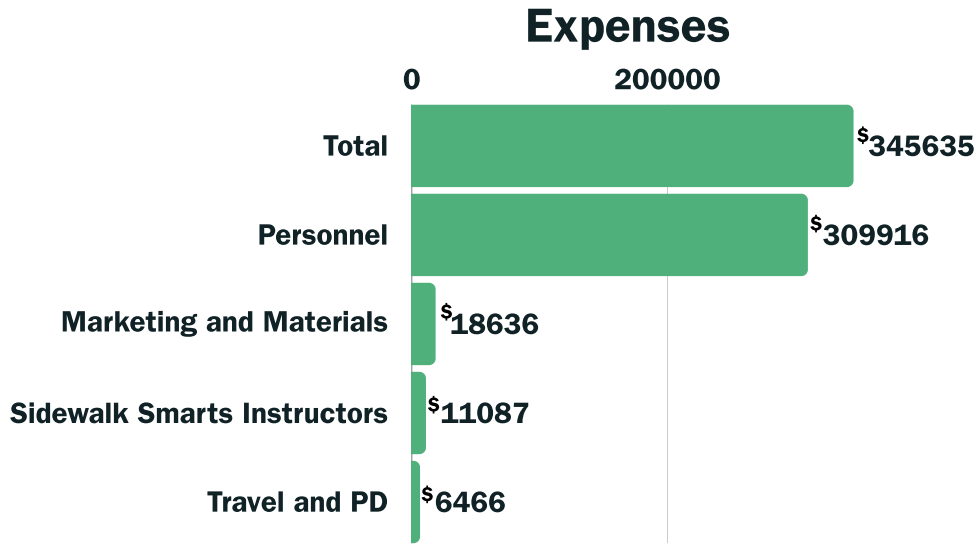
Input was sought from the STP team on the following projects: Wilfrid Laurier student project exploring paid Walking School Buses, Street Design Guidelines, GRT Business Plan (workshop), CoK Crossing Guard Appreciation Event, Ontario Traffic Committee School Zone Symposium, and Green Municipal Fund "Safe and Active School Routes" grant development.



Financials

Funding for STP work is collaboratively supplied by municipal and school board partners. From September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025 the total amount contributed was $344,941; partner inputs are depicted in the funnel graph below. The main expense for STP is personnel, which this year included an expansion to 12 month roles for the STP Planners. The STP team spends time engaging with school communities, developing ideas from those communities, creating programs and materials, conducting data collection, building data reports, planning and executing events, supporting communities through construction transitions, and making maps.





Next Steps

The 2025-26 year promises to be a richly productive year, with more engaged schools than ever before and greater opportunities to work with partners on the 5 E's of sustainable school travel. The STP team aims to:

Focus on proven tactics

Support replication of successful action-plan strategies from Champion/Gold/ Silver schools to others with similar needs. Provide tailored coaching to schools with lower active-travel rates to help them develop or refresh their action plans.

Expand map set

Complement Drive to 5 schemas by also providing maps that show families the best active travel routes to school including complete sidewalks, crossings, signals, bike lanes and other active travel infrastructure to help make active school travel an easier choice.

Improve safety education

Evaluate program impact and reach. Consider additions to the Sidewalk Smarts program, deeper engagement opportunities in the Trailblazer program and anti-idling materials for teacher use in the classroom.

Increase access to information

Support transition to a new STSWR website, ensuring strong connections and easy navigation for families looking for STP information.

Further Develop School Streets

The City of Waterloo and STSWR continue to participate within the "Aspiring Communities Stream" of the National School Streets Initiative, currently evaluating school contexts to see if and where this intervention could work. STP and City of Waterloo attended several training sessions in the 2024-25 school year and will use their new knowledge to evaluate and plan for a potential pilot project.

The Initiative is led by five core partners: Green Communities Canada, 8/80 Cities, Montreal Urban Ecology Centre, University of Montreal and Queens' University.



Reflections

The 2024–25 school year brought many reasons to celebrate — from our first-ever Walk for the Earth event, to a Crossing Guard of the Year award, to reaching a major milestone by supporting our 92nd school community. This achievement means we have now worked with more than half the schools across the WCDSB and WRDSB portfolios for the first time.

We are deeply grateful for our municipal partners, who continue to respond to school community needs with meaningful upgrades to streets, sidewalks, pathways, and crossings. Their efforts are making a tangible difference in how students travel — and how it feels for them to travel — to school throughout the region. We also extend our thanks to local enforcement officers for their ongoing attention to traffic conditions around schools, helping to manage congestion and support safer active travel for children.

Our STP, Sidewalk Smarts, and Trailblazer programs would not be possible without the unwavering support of the outstanding administrative teams and teachers at WCDSB and WRDSB schools — educators who also consistently show great patience during our brief but essential data collection visits. We are equally appreciative of the boards' planning and communications teams, whose collaboration has contributed significantly to creating school environments that foster active travel, both physically and culturally.

This work succeeds because our community comes together. Thank you all for a wonderful year and for helping us lay a strong foundation for continued active-travel growth in 2025–26. As we continue to deepen and strengthen our programs, we encourage any school community that could benefit from School Travel Planning support to reach out to us at stp@stswr.ca.

stp@stswr.ca
www.stswr.ca/walkzone





Appendix A
STP Method

Ontario Active School Travel provides a toolkit and procedure that STSWR uses to guide STP processes. According to their website:

“School Travel Planning is a community-based model for implementing active school travel that systematically addresses barriers to and incentives for walking to school. School Travel Planning strengthens local commitment to active school travel.

“School Travel Planning (STP) is a proven cost-effective way to get more kids walking and wheeling to school. When effectively coordinated and implemented, it results in positive travel behaviour changes with health, safety, environmental, and economic benefits.

“Through STP, school and community stakeholders collaborate to create and implement school-level action plans that use all of the 5 areas to:

- address ongoing transportation and traffic safety problems
- increase the number of students using active and sustainable modes for all or part of the journey to school.[1]”

The 5 areas include:

1. **Education** - teaching students and community members about active transportation options and ensuring they have the skills to be safe near traffic
2. **Encouragement** - using events, activities, support systems, and incentives to promote AST
3. **Engineering** – working with partners to make improvements to the built environment on and off school property to increase safety; “the majority of the studies finding null effects on AST only focused on non-infrastructure strategies through either educational (Ducheyne et al, 2014; McMinn et al., 2012) or encouragement tactics (Bungum et al., 2014; Sayers et al., 2012; Hunter et al., 2015) without addressing environmental barriers.[2]”
4. **Reinforcement** – partnering with police and bylaw officers on traffic and crime concerns in the neighborhoods around schools and along school routes, encouraging administrators to supervise traffic on school property, and encouraging parents/guardians to abide by traffic laws while reinforcing better drop-off behaviours
5. **Evaluation** – bringing attention to the mode split and assessing the effectiveness of the interventions

[1] https://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/school-travel-planning/ extracted October 28, 2020.
[2] Mammen, George. School Travel Planning in Canada: A Holistic Examination of Program Impact on Active School Travel. University of Toronto, Graduate Department of Exercise Sciences. 2016; pp. 31.

Appendix B
STP School Rankings

Rank	School	Municipality	Board
Champion	Chicopee Hills	Kitchener	WRDSB
Champion	Groh	Kitchener	WRDSB
Champion	Oak Creek	Kitchener	WRDSB
Champion	Sandhills	Kitchener	WRDSB
Champion	Wilson Avenue	Kitchener	WRDSB
Champion	Edna Staebler	Waterloo	WRDSB
Gold	St. Peter	Cambridge	WCDSB
Gold	Brigadoon	Kitchener	WRDSB
Gold	Cedar Creek	North Dumfries	WRDSB
Gold	Elizabeth Ziegler	Waterloo	WRDSB
Gold	Vista Hills	Waterloo	WRDSB
Silver	Blair Road	Cambridge	WRDSB
Silver	Our Lady of Fatima	Cambridge	WCDSB
Silver	St. Michael	Cambridge	WCDSB
Silver	Cameron Heights CI	Kitchener	WRDSB
Silver	Howard Robertson	Kitchener	WRDSB
Silver	St. Mark	Kitchener	WCDSB
Silver	Trillium	Kitchener	WRDSB
Silver	Resurrection CSS	Waterloo	WCDSB
Silver	St. Agnes	Waterloo	WCDSB
Silver	St. Boniface	Woolwich	WCDSB
Bronze	Avenue Road	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Central	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Clemens Mill	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Hespeler	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Hillcrest	Cambridge	WRDSB

Rank	School	Municipality	Board
Bronze	Holy Spirit	Cambridge	WCDSB
Bronze	Jacob Hespeler SS	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Moffat Creek	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Preston	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	Saginaw	Cambridge	WRDSB
Bronze	St. Augustine	Cambridge	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Benedict	Cambridge	WCDSB
Bronze	Blessed Sacrament	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	Bridgeport	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Courtland	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Forest Hill	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Franklin	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Holy Trinity	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	J.W. Gerth	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Janet Metcalfe	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	John Sweeney	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	King Edward	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Lackner Woods	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Pioneer Park	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	Saint John Paul II	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	Southridge	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	St. Anne (K)	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Daniel	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	St. John	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Josephine	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Patrick	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Timothy	Kitchener	WCDSB
Bronze	Suddaby	Kitchener	WRDSB
Bronze	St. Brigid	North Dumfries	WCDSB
Bronze	Abraham Erb	Waterloo	WRDSB
Bronze	Laurelwood	Waterloo	WRDSB
Bronze	Lincoln Heights	Waterloo	WRDSB
Bronze	MacGregor	Waterloo	WRDSB

Rank	School	Municipality	Board
Bronze	Mary Johnston	Waterloo	WRDSB
Bronze	Our Lady of Lourdes	Waterloo	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Luke	Waterloo	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Matthew	Waterloo	WCDSB
Bronze	St. Nicholas	Waterloo	WCDSB
Bronze	Waterloo Collegiate Inst.	Waterloo	WRDSB
Bronze	Riverside	Woolwich	WRDSB
Explorer	Coronation	Cambridge	WRDSB
Explorer	Elgin St.	Cambridge	WRDSB
Explorer	Galt Collegiate	Cambridge	WRDSB
Explorer	Manchester	Cambridge	WRDSB
Explorer	Silverheights	Cambridge	WRDSB
Explorer	St. Anne (C)	Cambridge	WCDSB
Explorer	St. Elizabeth	Cambridge	WCDSB
Explorer	St. Margaret of Scotland	Cambridge	WCDSB
Explorer	St. Vincent de Paul	Cambridge	WCDSB
Explorer	Hillside	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Huron Heights	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	J.F. Carmichael	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Jean Steckle	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Mackenzie King	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Monsignor Haller	Kitchener	WCDSB
Explorer	Shepphard	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Smithson	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	St. Dominic Savio	Kitchener	WCDSB
Explorer	St. Teresa Kitchener	Kitchener	WCDSB
Explorer	Williamsburg	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Willow River	Kitchener	WRDSB
Explorer	Lexington	Waterloo	WRDSB
Explorer	Millen Woods	Waterloo	WRDSB
Explorer	Winston Churchill	Waterloo	WRDSB
Explorer	Grandview	Wilmot	WRDSB
Explorer	John Mahood	Woolwich	WRDSB

Appendix C
Program Descriptions

The following programs work in various ways to address barriers to active travel:

Active Transportation Celebration Events – Celebrates students who use active travel and encourages their peers to find ways to experience the active commute, sometimes for the first time. Individual school events can occur throughout the year.
Bike Bus – An organized system of getting children to school on bikes under the supervision of qualified adult volunteers.
Bike to School Week – Celebrates active modes of transportation like cycling and wheeling across Ontario. In Waterloo region, municipal partners provide incentives to join a region-wide celebration.
BikeWalkRoll – Allows schools to discover their modal split so they know how many children are walking, cycling, rolling (includes scootering and mobility devices), riding city transit, riding school buses, or being driven to school. This information is particularly useful in the action planning stage of school travel planning.
CAA Standing Foot Patrol – Trains student leaders to monitor school crossings by ensuring students cross roads near their school in a safe and responsible manner. Unlike Adult Crossing Guards, Patrollers do not stop or direct traffic. This program is provided by CAA through STSWR in partnership with Waterloo Region Police Services, and the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener, and Waterloo.
Community Road Model - Asks all road users to pledge to obey traffic laws, use active transportation more often, and to be courteous road users. Students take the pledge in class and a take-home discussion primer helps students encourage their parents or guardians to take the pledge, drive more safely, and place decals in vehicle windows.
Drive-to-5 Maps – Identifies safe and legal street parking a short distance away from the school to disperse congestion and leave school access points safer for children on foot. This program is a steppingstone towards active travel for hesitant parents.
Kindergarten Package – Introduces parents to the expectation that our smallest children can walk to the bus stop or to school, and helps parents teach their children about walking and road safety. Can include milestone magnets outlining coaching how-to's and Kindergarten orientation flyers and presentation slides.
Parking Restriction Request Support – Helps schools build a case to advocate for changes to parking restrictions when and where necessary.

Program Descriptions

Continued...

Sidewalk Smarts – Introduces grades 3 and 4 students to complex pedestrian skills. Students learn in-class and then practice skills curbside to get real life experience on familiar streets. Students take home a checklist that parents can use to gauge their child(ren)'s readiness to actively travel independently.

Trailblazers – Trains student walking experts who walk preferred routes to school wearing class II safety vests. This program provides greater visibility of active school commuters, provides a greater level of pedestrian skill knowledge on school routes, and helps to highlight preferred routes to other students.

Walking School Bus - An organized system of getting children to school on foot under the supervision of qualified adult volunteers.

Winter Walk Day – a Region-wide event held on the first Wednesday of February to celebrate those who walk in all weather and to encourage those who don't to try it.