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CORRESPONDENCE

as of 10-21-2022

From: [Safe Routes to School San Mateo County Office of Education Board \(@smcta.com\)](#)
To: [Safe Routes to School San Mateo County Office of Education Board \(@smcta.com\)](#)
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San Mateo County
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Healthy Kids • Green Communities • Safe Journeys

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day (RBWTSD) Poster Contest

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day (RBWTSD) is on Monday, November 14! There are A LOT of cool promotional items for your school(s)!

Poster contest submissions are due **October 25** More information about the contest is below.



Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day Poster Contest

Students of all grade levels are encouraged to submit their original artwork inspired by **Ruby Bridges**, the six year old who became a symbol of courage, bravery, and social justice during the civil rights movement.

Posters may include one or more of the following themes:

- *Ruby Walks for All Students*
- *Diversity and Inclusion in All Schools*
- *Walk to School Like Ruby Did*
- *Walk for Justice and Equity*

Posters can be created by individual students, small groups, or classrooms. Winning entries will be made into posters and shared with schools countywide to promote **Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day** in November! Learn more about Ruby Bridges and Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day at www.tinyurl.com/rubybridgeswalk

Deadline for Entries: October 25

Entry Rules and Guidelines:

- All entries must be on an 8½" x 11" sheet of paper and have a ¼ inch border around the perimeter
- Please do not use lined paper
- All words must be spelled correctly (English or Spanish)
- Please outline pictures and words in black marker and use markers or colored pencils (not crayons) to color in the poster
- Name, grade-level, teacher, school and district must be written in ballpoint pen on the back of the submission

How to Submit Your Art:

You can turn it in at your school's front office,
scan and email it to us at: srts@smcoe.org,
or mail it to:

Safe Routes to School
101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065



[View or print the Spanish and English version of the flyer.](#)

History of Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

On November 14, 1960, at the tender age of six, Ruby Bridges became one of the first African American students to integrate into an elementary school in the South. Her simple but

courageous act of showing up for school each day played an important part in the civil rights movement.

In May 2018, a group of fifth graders from Martin Elementary School in South San Francisco, California, learned about Ruby and asked their school board to pass a resolution making November 14 Ruby Bridges Day. The San Mateo County Office of Education Safe Routes to School team met with the students about making it a walk to school day and invited them to present this proposal to the San Mateo County Board of Education.

A resolution was passed endorsing November 14 as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day in San Mateo County. The Safe Routes to School team invited other schools to join the Martin students in honoring Ruby's courage by celebrating this walk to school day. Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day has grown exponentially since the first walk was held in 2018.

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day Grants (RBWTSD), in Partnership with AAA

In January 2021, with the help of Northern California AAA, the Ruby Bridges Foundation joined the movement and began to expand RBWTSD as a national initiative and in September 2021, the California State Senate passed a resolution recognizing November 14th as Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day in the state of California!

This year Northern California AAA is, once again, offering grants to schools to support their RBWTSD efforts AND [if you sign your school up on the Norcal AAA Ruby Bridges web page](#), you will get a cool toolkit that includes an additional banner, pins, beanies, and other cool items.

Free Crossing Guard Training Classes

The Active Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) is offering free virtual trainings for anyone interested in supporting crossing guards in their community or looking to train new crossing guards. Workshops are set up in a "Train-the-Trainer" format meant to give attendees the skills and background to instruct new crossing guards, encouraging standardized practices, and increasing familiarity with traffic safety rules and regulations.

All sessions are held online. Upcoming workshops are on October 27, November 3, and November 10. Spanish language interpretation will be available during the November 10 session. To sign up, [visit the ATRC website](#).

Halloween

Halloween is right around the corner! The SMCOE Safe Routes to School team wants to remind everyone to be safe while Trick-or-Treating.

[Download a Spanish/English Halloween safety tip flier here.](#)

Haga que su hijo tenga un Halloween feliz y seguro.

Halloween es divertido pero peligroso. Más gente maneja intoxicada en Halloween que en la noche de Fin de Año. Los niños son más propensos a caerse, ser atropellados por un auto o quemarse en la noche de Halloween. Pero usted puede ayudar a que Halloween sea seguro y divertido.

Lo que puede hacer...

Use disfraces seguros.
Haga disfraces de colores vivos. Manténgalos cortos para que sus hijos no se tropiecen. Use materiales "resistentes a las llamas".

Ayude a que sus hijos puedan ver bien. En lugar de caretas o máscaras, use pintura para caras no tóxica. Asegúrese de que los sombreros o artículos para la cabeza no se resbalen. Dele linternas a los niños.

Vaya con ellos. Quédate con sus hijos mientras piden golosinas. Si no puede, sepa dónde van a ir los niños, con quién y a qué hora regresarán al hogar.

Permanezca seguro usted mismo. Si usted camina y cruza la calle de forma segura, es más probable que los niños hagan lo mismo.

Lo que le puede enseñar a su hijo...

Cómo cruzar la calle seguramente. Enseñe a los niños a usar las esquinas y los cruces de peatones. (Los niños pueden causar accidentes cuando salen corriendo a la calle o cruzan la calle a mitad de cuadra).

Cómo prevenir caídas. Los niños deben usar las linternas y caminar, no correr.

Cómo evitar quemaduras. No use velas en linternas de calabaza. Instruya a sus hijos a que permanezcan lejos de velas y llamas.

Dónde ir. Los niños solo deberían hacer "trick-or-treat" en casas de gente que conocen. Hable sobre qué hacer en caso de una emergencia.

Su niño está en manos seguras... las suyas

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Give your child a happy, safe Halloween.

Halloween is fun, but dangerous. More people drive drunk on Halloween than on New Year's Eve. Children are more likely to fall, be hit by a car, or get burned on Halloween night. But you can help keep Halloween safe and fun.

What you can do...

Use safe costumes.
Make costumes bright. Keep them short so kids don't trip. Use "flame resistant" materials.

Help children see.
Instead of masks, use non-toxic face paint. Make sure hats and headgear do not slip. Give kids flashlights.

Go with them.
Stay with your trick-or-treaters. If you can't, know where kids are going, who they're with, and when they will be home.

Be safe yourself.
If you walk and cross streets safely, your children are more likely to do the same.

What you can teach your child...

How to cross safely.
Teach children to use corners and crosswalks. (Kids can cause crashes when they dart out or cross mid-block.)

How to prevent falls.
Children should use sidewalks. They need to use flashlights and walk, not run.

How to avoid burns.
Do not use candles in Jack o' lanterns. Prompt children to stay away from candles and flames.

Where to go.
Children should "trick-or-treat" only at houses of people they know. Talk about what to do in an emergency.

Your Child is in Safe Hands . . . Yours

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October Is National Pedestrian Safety Month

In partnership with Safe Routes to School and the California Office of Traffic Safety, we remind families to review the following tips to improve the safety of students walking to/from school and on school grounds.

Drivers

- Do not speed and be sure to slow down at intersections!
- Be prepared to stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks.
- Stay off the phone when behind the wheel.
- Avoid blocking crosswalks while waiting to make a right-hand turn.
- Never drive impaired.

Pedestrians

- Be predictable. Use signalized crosswalks where drivers anticipate foot traffic.



- Put phones, headphones, and devices down when crossing the street.
- Watch for approaching vehicles and practice care when crossing the street. At 30 mph, a driver needs at least 90 feet to stop.
- Make it easier for drivers to see you at night – wear light colors, reflective material, and use a flashlight.
- Be careful crossing streets, entering crosswalks at night, and on busier streets with higher speed limits.

[Download this document to get safety tips and videos in both Spanish and English.](#)

[To get a Slow the Fast Down banner, click here.](#)



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Our mailing address is:

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Redwood City, CA 94065
www.smcoe.org/srts
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