

Clean Air for our Children

Be IDLE-FREE at Morningside Elementary!

Did you know that MES has a **NO IDLING POLICY**? Please do not leave your car running for more than **30 seconds** while parked, waiting for carpool to open, or picking up a child from extracurriculars/aftercare. Read more below on the health and monetary benefits of reducing idling, and help us spread the word about our school's commitment to clean air. Let's work together to create a safer learning environment for our kids!

Why should you support the no idling policy?

1) Idling POLLUTES the air we breathe.

- Idling emits 20 times more pollution than traveling at 30 mph.
- Monitoring at schools across the U.S. (including MES) has revealed air pollution "hot spots" during carpool.
- A single vehicle picking-up and dropping-off kids puts 3 pounds of air pollution into the air per month.
- Diesel exhaust from school buses is of particular concern because it creates microscopic soot with over 40 hazardous chemicals that are easily inhaled into the lungs.



2) Idling harms our HEALTH.

- Vehicle exhaust is harmful to everyone's health, but it especially affects children because their lungs are still developing, they breathe 50% more air per pound than adults, and they are closer to the ground/tailpipe emissions.
- Vehicle exhaust is linked to increases in asthma, allergies, heart and lung disease, and even cancer.

3) Idling costs you MONEY.

- It is more fuel efficient to turn your engine off than to idle for more than 10 seconds.
- Car manufacturers recommend against idling for more than 30 seconds because it causes wear and tear on engine parts.