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## OPERATIONAL SERVICES

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### Limited-Idling Policy

Somonauk School District is committed to providing a healthy and productive environment for all persons using our school. In light of the significant risk posed by school bus exhaust emissions, especially to children. Somonauk School District is implementing an limited bus idling policy. This policy is intended to improve the health and safety of all individuals in or around the school and school grounds and reduce risks associated with exposure to diesel exhaust (such as aggravated respiratory and cardiovascular conditions, decreased lung function, acute respiratory symptoms, and chronic bronchitis). The following steps indicate the exact timing of specific changes to current operations and outline the procedures for conflict resolution and enforcement:

**A. Implementation of Policy to Reduce Exposure to School Bus Exhaust Emissions, also known as diesel exhaust emissions.**

Beginning immediately, Somonauk School District requires all buses to limit their idling on school grounds to improve surrounding air quality; protect the health of drivers, students, and others; conserve fuel (save money); and decrease engine wear.

**B. Policy Guidelines to Reduce Exposure to School Bus Exhaust Emissions.**

This rule applies to any bus service, including home-to-school, activity, or charter transportation.

1. To the extent possible, eliminate idling upon reaching your destination:
  - While waiting for passengers to board at place of origin, all engines should be shut off.
  - When arriving at your location, all buses should be shut off as soon as it is practical; buses should not idle while waiting for passengers.
2. During morning start-up, buses should idle no longer than necessary to bring engines to proper operating temperature and to defrost all windows.
3. Exceptions to the policy may be made when the air temperature is below 40 degrees, and when it is necessary to run the engine to operate required safety equipment or to maintain a safe environment for passengers with special health needs. The **guidelines** for maximum engine idling are:
  - Above 40° F: 3 minutes
  - Between 0° and 40° F: 10 minutes

- Below 0° F: no limit
4. Signs will be posted to remind all (car, bus, and truck) drivers of our school's Limited-Idling Policy.

ADOPTED: 9-18-06

To: All School Bus Drivers

Re: Limiting Bus Idling

The School District wants to protect school children and each of you from excessive exposure to diesel exhaust emissions. As part of this effort, we support and encourage you to follow their guidelines restricting engine idling time whenever practical, effective immediately.

To the extent possible, reduce idling:

- While waiting for passengers to board at place of origin, shut off all engines.
- When arriving at your location, shut off all buses as soon as it is practical.
- Guidelines for maximum engine idling [consistent with existing state regulations]:
  - Above 40° F: 3 minutes
  - Between 0° and 40° F: 10 minutes
  - Below 0 ° F: no limit

Please help us do our part to reduce air pollution and protect children's (and your own) health. Minimizing vehicle idling will also save money by reducing fuel consumption and engine wear.

Thank you for your support and cooperation with this effort.

School Bus Drivers Doing Their Share for Clean Air!