

SchoolPool Marin Pledge Form

SchoolPoolMarin.org



(Name),

wish to be a member of a SchoolPool

We agree to the following rules: (discuss these with your parent and place a check mark in each box below).

1. The pick-up place each morning will be _____
_____ at ____ am
2. The SchoolPool will gather at school at _____
_____ at ____ pm
3. Student will be on time.
4. Student will listen to the volunteer SchoolPool Driver.
5. Arrangements will be made so that someone will be at home to meet the student after school or:
6. We (parent and student) agree that the student can be dropped off at home after school with my own house key.
7. Student will not to go to school or leave school by his or herself, or with friends, or anyone else unless they have their parent's written permission and the SchoolPool driver knows about this arrangement.
8. We will notify the volunteer driver if the student is not going to travel to or from school with the SchoolPool for any reason.

For Those Walking or Biking

1. Student will obey all traffic rules and demonstrate safe pedestrian/cyclist behavior.
2. When biking, student will always wear a helmet and obey traffic signs.
3. Student will not speed ahead or keep the group waiting by going too slowly.

Late Policy

- If the student is late after school and the SchoolPool has already gone, student will inform the school office so that arrangements can be made for his or her safe journey home. Student will wait in the office until his or her parent/caregiver comes to pick him or her up. Parent/caregiver is responsible for getting the student to or from school if late.

One Chance Rule

- Student understands that if he or she behaves in an unsafe manner in traffic, or does not listen to and obey the directions of the volunteer driver, the student will be given a warning and the parent/caregiver will be informed. This will be the first and last chance. If the student does not follow the rules and behavior expected, we understand that the student will not be allowed to continue being a member of the SchoolPool.

Parent Signature

Date

Child Signature

Date

Support for the SchoolPool Marin program is provided by a grant from Marin Community Foundation, funding from the Transportation Authority of Marin and in partnership with the Marin County Office of Education.

Tips for organizing a SchoolPool from the SchoolPoolMarin.org Website

Register on SchoolPoolMarin.org to receive a match list of other families who are interested in walking, biking, carpooling or taking the bus to school together and travel the same route as you...

The screenshot shows the SchoolPoolMarin.org website. At the top, it says "SchoolPoolMarin.org" and "carpool / walk / bike / bus together". Below that, there's a "Welcome to SchoolPool Marin!" section with a "Reduce Traffic" graphic that says "Up to 26% of morning traffic consists of parents driving their children to school." There are three main sections: "SchoolPool Marin TripShare", "Green Ways to School Challenge", and "School Faculty and Staff Join the Campaign". Each section has a "REGISTER" button.

1. Once you receive your match list, call or e-mail others on the list to discuss starting a SchoolPool. If you do not receive a match list right away, the system will send you an email as others sign up.
2. Everyone on your match list has indicated an interest in finding SchoolPool companions, so contact them to discuss the types of SchoolPools they are interested in, the number of days to and/or from school, the number of kids and their ages to see if it's a match.
3. If you are forming a SchoolPool with people you may not know, consider arranging to meet first at school. The sample SchoolPool Pledge Form covers SchoolPooling etiquette that members can sign or use for discussion purposes.
4. Once you have agreed to SchoolPool, exchange home and cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Arrangements made on e-mail must be confirmed by the recipient; otherwise a call should be made. (See Pledge Form).
5. Remember, a SchoolPool does not need to be everyday or both to and from school to have a big impact. Please carpool, walk, bike, or use the bus as often as possible. Every vehicle mile reduced is significant. Walkers and bikers can carpool when it gets stormy.
6. If you are carpooling with people you don't know well, consider riding with each other the first time you each drive.
7. Set expectations for the time to meet, the location and departure times and discuss what you will do if another family is late. See Pledge Form.
8. Consider a trial period of a few weeks to see if the new SchoolPool arrangement is working for everyone.
9. Please consider picking up others on your way to school, even if they cannot reciprocate. They can provide rides after school or at other times. Every car trip reduced helps!
10. Informal SchoolPooling with your neighbors works, too. Families can call their neighbors to see if their kids are walking or biking or can carpool that day. A schedule can be developed when possible.
11. Please make sure all drivers of a carpool have a current license and insurance.
12. A "Walking School Bus" is a group of neighbors who walk to school picking up kids along the way or by meeting at a set location. The rule of thumb is to have one adult for six children. Be sure an adult is at the front and the rear of a large group.
13. A "Bike Train" is a group of kids who bike together to or from school. If the group is under age 12, there should be one adult for each four children, one in front and one in back. Young children biking to school should always be accompanied by an adult.
14. To deal with an emergency situation, please make sure you have the correct contact information of all parents with whom your child(ren) schoolpool.

Register for SchoolPool at www.SchoolPoolMarin.org

If you would like to be anonymous at first, consider using a temporary e-mail address you set up on your personal e-mail account to submit on your registration. Be sure you check it regularly.

SchoolPool

Sample Schedule

Day	Who	Phone	email
Monday	Sue Murphy bike	721-7845	sMurphy@email.com
Tuesday	Jim Golden Drive	456-4567	jgolden@email.com
Wednesday	All Bike-Sue is main contact		smurphy@email.com
Thursday	Mary HenneseyDrive	258-0964	mhnnesey@email.com
Friday	Smith's walk or bikedepending on weather?	721-7899	jSmith@email.com

SchoolPool

Suggested Email

Subject: Neighborhood Schoolpool Network

I would like to invite you to join our family to Schoolpool with us(walk, bike, carpool or take the bus together to school). Schoolpooling is a way for all of us to drive less to school. It's a great way to reduce car trips and the related green house gas emissions while saving time and moneyon gas. Schoolpooling is also an opportunity to teach our children the benefits of traveling together and it'sa fun way for our children to get to know their neighbors. We could each start with one day a week to try it out.

Do you think you might be interested? Is there another family that you know in our area that might also be interested? I look forward to hearing your thoughts on this idea

Please reply to this email and forward it to other families who may be interested or call me at xxx-xxxx.

Best,

Susan Murphy

(Mother of Kimberly, 7-years-old, 1st grade)