

**Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union
Middletown Springs Town School District
Tinmouth Town School District**

**Ira Town School District
Poultney Town School District
Wells Town School District**

IDLING OF VEHICLES OTHER THAN SCHOOL BUSES

Code # F-106

Policy:

It is the policy of the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and its member districts that operators of motor vehicles other than school buses shall not allow their vehicles to idle while on school grounds.

Idling of school buses is addressed by 23 V.S.A. § 1282(f).

Definition: The term “school grounds” shall mean any area adjacent to school buildings and used at any time for school-related activities, including parking lots, playing fields and driveways.

It is understood that motor vehicle idling poses a risk to people in the vicinity and to the environment. The inhalation of motor vehicle exhaust may contribute to human health problems, air pollution, and other environmental problems. Exposure to motor vehicle exhaust can cause lung damage and respiratory problems and can exacerbate asthma and existing allergies.

The Principal, Superintendent, or designee shall:

- Post “limited idling” or “no idling” signs to notify the operators of motor vehicles on school grounds that engines must be turned off when a vehicle is waiting or parked.
- Identify, if practicable, an indoor waiting area for individuals waiting for students.
- Prohibit the use of remote engine starter devices by school staff.
- Prohibit the idling of delivery vehicles when loading or unloading. Where engine idling is needed to facilitate delivery (such as fuel delivery), delivery shall not take place when school is in session.
- Prohibit the idling of vehicles used by visiting schools while waiting for students during school-sponsored events.
- Develop and enforce procedures to allow limited idling as needed for health and safety, such as to operate equipment to accommodate students with disabilities or to defrost windshields when required for safe vehicle operation.
- Study the feasibility of relocating school building air intake systems away from parking areas when relevant and practical and shall consider other measures to reduce intake of vehicle exhaust where relocating intake systems is not feasible.

23 V.S.A. § 1282(f) Vermont State Board of Education Manual or Rules and Practices, Rule 6001. Subject to state board of education rules, which may provide for limited idling, the operator of a school bus shall not idle the engine while waiting for children to board or to exit the vehicle at a school and shall not start the engine until ready to leave the school premises. The board, in consultation with the agency of natural resources, the department of health, and the department of motor vehicles, shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. The rules shall set forth periods or circumstances that reasonably require the idling of the engine, including periods when it is necessary to operate defrosting, heating, or cooling equipment to ensure the health or safety of the driver or passengers or to operate auxiliary equipment; and periods when the engine is undergoing maintenance or inspection.

	Date Adopted	Replaces Policy
Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union	9/26/11	None
Ira Town School District	See RSWSU	None
Middletown Springs Town School District	6/16/11	None
Poultney Town School District	4/5/11	None
Tinmouth Town School District	6/13/11	None
Wells Town School District	4/6/11	None