

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.46 (SUNSHINE COAST)

STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT: TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Nicholas Weswick
June 8, 2022

Goal 3.f.: Our **district facilities** will be safe, engaging and energy efficient.

OVERVIEW:

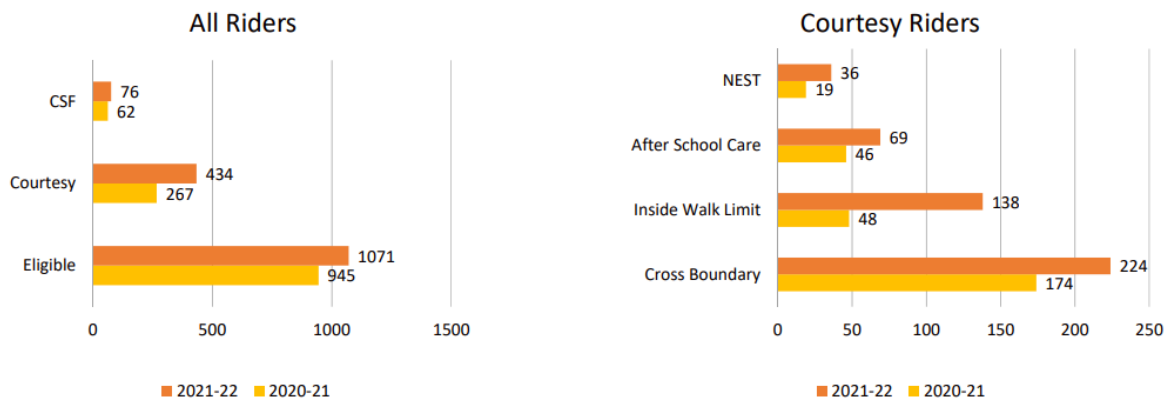
The board initiated a transportation review in the previous school year which is nearing completion. The final step in the process is to evaluate our contracted bus services to determine if there are benefits to shifting to an in-house bussing model. The district continues to explore active travel options at schools, encouraging staff and students to reduce carbon emissions by incorporating active travel into their routines.

SYNOPSIS OF THIS YEAR'S INITIATIVES:

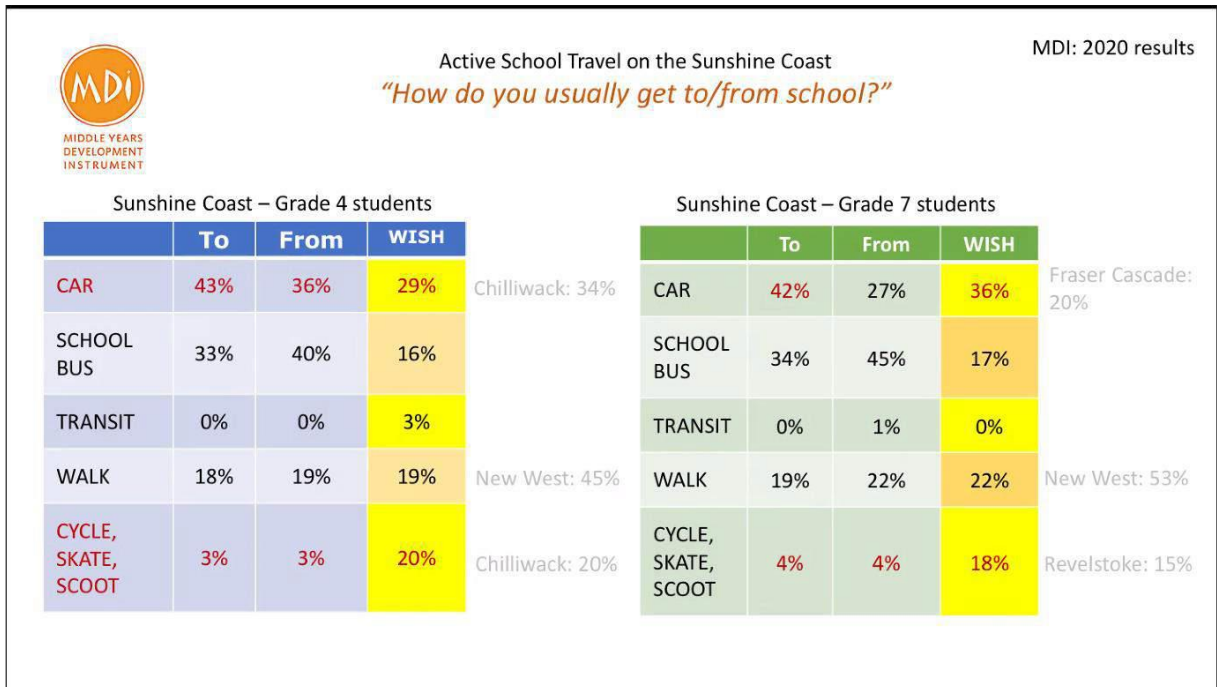
- Reviewed and updated Regulation 4160 – Transportation of Student
- Installation of an Extended Stop Arm on bus 269 (Sechelt area bus)
- Best Routes to School maps developed for eight elementary schools
- Minor adjustments to bell schedules to help align with bus schedules
- Expanded initiatives to support Active Travel weeks

DATA ANALYSIS AND REVIEW:

- Bus ridership increased by 23% in the current school year



- The district continues to support student in improving opportunities to engage in active transportation options. As evidenced by the tables below, students would prefer more active forms of travel over car and school bus.



RESOURCES/BUDGET:

- \$20,000 Vision Zero Grant to support Active Travel initiatives
- Existing Student Transportation budget

EMERGING AREAS OF NEED:

- Continued advocacy for improved infrastructure to enable active travel to schools.
- Wheelchair accessible buses may be required in future.

ADAPTATIONS/NEXT STEPS:

- Implementing a process for the new Guest Riders language described in Regulation 4160 – Transportation of Students
- Finalize cost benefit analysis of taking bus services in house
- Continue to look for efficiencies to optimize bus routes and bell schedules
- Continue to support schools and PACs in identifying barriers to active travel and advocating for solutions.