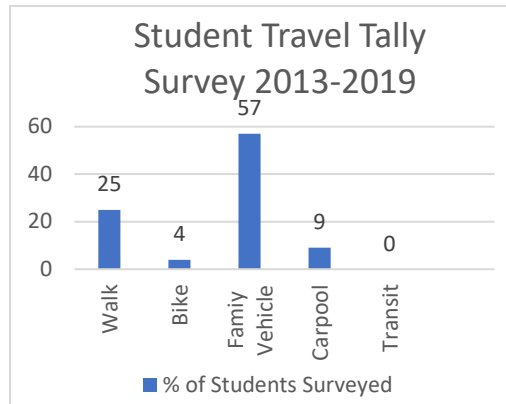


MARY FARMAR ELEMENTARY

Benicia Unified School District | K- 5th Grades | 492 Students | Public School



Mary Farmar Elementary is an exemplary school for its participation in the Safe Routes program as it continues to make walking and biking to school safe for its students.

The Mary Farmar and Solano SR2S partnership has evolved and strengthened over the years starting when the school first piloted a Walking School Bus program during the 2012-2013 school year. Since then, the school has participated in **every** SR2S activity and event and consistently celebrates International Walk to School Day and National Bike to School Day.

In 2018, the partnership deepened when a school parent noticed unsafe driver behavior and other traffic safety concerns that affected student safety. The then interim principal contacted SR2S for ideas to help with the situation which resulted in the "Safe Passage to School" pilot program. With SR2S funding, the pilot program proposed having school district staff supervise students at specific locations to safely walk and bike to school and to provide a physical presence to make drivers more aware of their behavior. Because the school was unable to find staffing, the pilot changed its focus and the school formed the "Safe Passage Coalition".

This one of a kind collaborative group, is led by principal Mellissa Harley and includes teachers, parents, community members, city and school district staff, Benicia police department personnel and SR2S staff. The group works together to address traffic safety and encourage walking and biking to school. As a result, the school re-engaged its Walking Wednesdays program in Jan. 2019, has worked with the Benicia Unified School District on plans for a safer drop off/pick up area, gave input at the **Benicia Community Task Force meeting** regarding SR2S school safety projects near Mary Farmar, and was awarded a **SR2S Micro Grant** for signage and other safety equipment to improve the drop off/pick up zone.

Mary Farmar also participated in a spring 2018 walk audit with parents and SR2S staff to evaluate existing infrastructure and observe driver behavior as students and families arrived at school. It was also selected as a pilot school to gauge the impact and effectiveness of SR2S programs, and included a parent focus group meeting in March 2019 to get feedback about the SR2S program and potential improvements for students as they travel to and from school.

Participation by School Year

2013-2014

- Bike Rodeo
- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Student Travel Surveys (Fall)
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)

2014-2015

- Bike Mobile
- Bike Rodeo
- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Nat'l Bike to School Day
- SR2S Poster Contest
- Student Travel Surveys (Fall)
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)

2015-2016

- Bike Mobile
- Bike Rodeo/Helmet Fitting
- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Nat'l Bike to School Day
- SR2S Poster Contest
- Student Travel Surveys (Fall)
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)

2016-2017

- Bike Rodeo/Helmet Fitting
- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Nat'l Bike to School Day
- SR2S Poster Contest
- Student Travel Surveys (Fall)
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)

2017-2018

- Bike Mobile
- Bike Rodeo (2)
- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Nat'l Bike to School Day
- "Rock the Block" Assembly
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)

2018-2019

- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Nat'l Bike to School Day
- "Rock the Block" Assembly
- Student Travel Surveys (Fall)
- Student Travel Surveys (Spring)
- Walking Wednesday Begins

2019-2020

- Int'l Walk to School Day
- Walking Wednesday