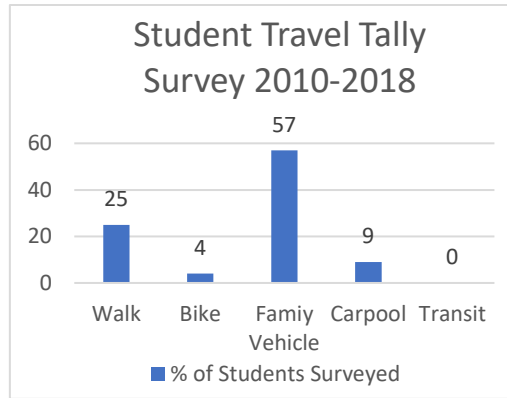


SOLANO-WIDENMANN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

VALLEJO CITY Unified School District | K- 8th Grades | 422 Students | Public School



Elsa Widenmann Elementary School merged with Solano Middle School in August 2019 creating a K-8 school on the site of Solano Middle School. Both schools have been active in the SR2S Program at their independent sites previously.

Widenmann Elementary has participated in many SR2S school events since 2010. Carolyn Finley as the Academic Support Provider at Solano Middle School (and continuing at the new school) has worked closely with the SR2S Program since 2015. Both schools' participation included, hosting Bike to School and Walk to School Days, completing Student Travel Tally Surveys, and inviting SR2S staff to attend the school family resource nights. In May 2019, Supervisor Erin Hannigan supported students and families of Solano Middle School with a "Call to Action" event providing much needed resources for students and families, as well as partnering with SR2S for helmets and the Bay Area Bike Mobile to provide free bike repairs.

In advance of the start of the school year and to prepare for the increase in students, the School District-reconfigured the parking lot by removing parking spaces and adding a one-way drive through pick up/drop off area. Concerned about the increase in traffic after the school merger and for the students' safety, Ms. Finley reached out to SR2S staff for assistance. SR2S staff conducted a walk audit observation in September 2019.

Arriving in the morning before school, SR2S staff observed driver behavior, traffic patterns, and the number of students walking and biking to school. This visit provided important data for staff to help begin to address Ms. Finley's concerns. During the observation staff saw students being let out of cars and crossing the street mid-block outside of the crosswalk in front of the school. Many parents were seen skipping the traffic directly in front of the schools and using Cascade Ave. as a drop off zone, many times u-turns by drivers in front of the school held up traffic. A few students were observed arriving by bus at the Soltrans stop located directly in front of the school.

After the observations, SR2S staff met with Ms. Finley to discuss options for education and improvements around the school. It was suggested that Solano-Widenmann apply for the pilot SR2S Micro Grant to fund safety incentives and equipment. The Solano Widenmann application was successfully funded, and discussions have begun with the City of Vallejo and the Vallejo City Unified School District to consider additional infrastructure improvements on the streets surrounding the school. Efforts were placed on hold in March 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic. SR2S will continue to support Solano Widenmann K-8 when students return to school.

Participation by School Year

2015-2016

Student Travel Surveys
Nat'l Walk to School Day

2016-2017

Student Travel Surveys
Nat'l Walk to School Day

2017-2018

Student Travel Surveys
Nat'l Walk to School Day
Safety Assemblies
Family Night

2018-2019

Student Travel Surveys
Nat'l Walk to School Day
Helmet Education/Fitting
Bike Safety/Bike Mobile
"Call to Action" Community Event

