Golden Sneaker Award is a program of Safes Routes to Schools, a project of the Transportation Authority of Marin.

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The Golden Sneaker Award contest is a competition between homeroom classes that rewards the class with the greatest number of students who walk, bike, carpool or ride the bus to school in a given month. The class keeps track of how often its students commute by these modes at the end of each week, and calculates the totals per commute mode at the end of the month. The class with the most participation overall (regardless of the mode breakdown) wins the Golden Sneaker Award and gets to display their award throughout the month. They also win an ice cream or pizza party, or some other special classroom activity. This contest fosters teamwork and allows students who cannot walk or bike to school to participate in this group transportation contest.

Some schools choose to “even out” the competition by splitting up the grades into more evenly matched levels that compete with each other. An example of grades that could compete against each other is: kindergarten and first graders, second and third graders, fourth and fifth graders. The contest can be conducted in both elementary and middle schools.
• It is easiest to begin the contest on the first Monday of the month and end it on the last Friday of the month.

• It is recommended to run the competition for only two or three months in a row. All participating homerooms should agree to the number of months to run the contest before beginning.

• Ask your students to keep track of each time they walk, bike, carpool or ride the bus to or from school each week.
  A one-way trip by one of these methods earns one point; a round trip earns two points.

• Use the sample form in this guide to track how students arrive at and leave school on a weekly basis. Asking for the students’ numbers on each Friday is a good method to use. Make a copy of this form for each month of the contest.

• You must return the form to the main office by the last Friday of every month in order for your class to be considered for the monthly prize.

• Winners will be announced on the loudspeaker the following Monday.

• A representative from the winning class should pick up the Golden Sneaker Award from the office and arrange a time during the month for the pizza or ice cream party.

• Once a date, time and location for the party is decided, please provide this information to ____________________________ (name of PTA contact).
End of Contest Month Reminder
Golden Sneaker Award Totals Sheets are due today in the office. Make sure you turn in your sheet for a chance to win a pizza or ice cream party!

Winners
Congratulations to Homerooms ______________________ (name winners) for capturing the Golden Sneaker Award. Your class can enjoy the __________________ (select ice cream or pizza) party they won next month, if you walk, bike, carpool or bus to school. We thank you for making decisions that reduce traffic and pollution around our school.

Optional statement to include: In order to make the competition as fair as possible, the following grades will compete with each other: kindergarten and first graders, second and third graders, fourth and fifth graders. Start a healthy habit now and have fun!
Checklists

Supplies
- Contest instructions with monthly tracking chart
- Promotional banners, flyers, posters, etc.
- Golden Sneaker Award

Contest Coordination Tasks
- Inform the school administration and the PTA of the event
- Meet with PTA about financing the pizza/ice cream parties for the winning classrooms
- Photocopy enough instruction/tracking chart sheets to give to teachers for each month
- Distribute instructions/tracking charts to teachers and decide the duration of the contest
- Recruit volunteers and enter them on your volunteer list
- Create and post promotional banners, flyers, posters, etc.
- Post contest announcement in the school newsletter
- Make Golden Sneaker Award
- Check in with classes mid month to make sure they are keeping track of their points
- Ask Principal to make loudspeaker announcements and provide script
- Collect class tracking sheets from office on contest’s last day
- Tally participation numbers for each class
- Coordinate pizza/ice cream party with PTA
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Dates Working</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTA/Administrators communication and pizza/ice cream party negotiations</td>
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<td>Instruction distribution to teachers</td>
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<td>Posters/banners creation</td>
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<td>Golden Sneaker construction</td>
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<td>Class tracking check-ins</td>
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How to Make a Golden Sneaker Award

This method is suggested by a team leader, but as long as you can figure out a way to mount a painted sneaker on a post, you’re “golden”!

Materials

- Size 14 (or larger) sneaker
- One-foot length of 4 by 4 post
- Two flat boards or one flat board and preferably something recessed, like a fence cap
- Four 2" bolts or large screws
- Drill
- Gold spray paint

Instructions

1. Obtain a very large sneaker.
2. Cut the 4 by 4 post into a one-foot length.
3. Place one end of the post onto the fence cap so it stands straight up and creates a pedestal. Bolt pieces together.
4. Place flat board on top of 4 by 4 and attach.
5. Drill two holes in the sneaker and the flat board and fasten bolt to the shoe from underneath.
6. Spray paint the whole thing.
7. Add a plaque (see picture).
# Student Sign-in Log

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<th>Student Name</th>
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**Teacher Name**

**Classroom Number**

**Coordinator Name**

**Phone Number**

**Email**

**Contest Month**

**Week of (date)**

**Student log**

- Write in students name and list mode of travel on each day.
- Give one point for one way, two points to two ways.

**TOTAL POINTS**
Class Travel Log

Use this form to report the total of each mode of travel for each day

- A one-way trip by any of these methods is worth one point
- Round trip is worth two points.

**CLASS GRAND TOTAL =**

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SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAMS

Walk & Roll to School Days

Golden Sneaker Award

WALK & BIKE ACROSS AMERICA

POLLUTION PUNCHCARD

Frequent Rider Miles Award

SchoolPool

Carpool • Walk • Bike Together

MEASURE A

Marin’s Transportation Sales Tax

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS MARIN COUNTY

TAM
Transportation Authority of Marin
www.tam.ca.gov

Safes Routes to Schools is a project of the Transportation Authority of Marin.