



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

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SMMUSD Announces Franklin Elementary as Golden Sneaker Award Winner

Congrats Franklin Bolts! The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) is honored to announce Franklin Elementary School as this year's winner of the Golden Sneaker award. Franklin had the highest level of participation, at 94% during the Bike It! Walk It! Bus It! (BIWIBI) campaign, held in October. Grant Elementary was the runner up with 93% participation.

The Board of Education is scheduled to recognize both schools for their achievements during the Nov. 17 school board meeting. City of Santa Monica officials will present the Golden Sneaker Award to Franklin, while the Board of Education will present Grant with a certificate.



*Franklin families participating in
Bike It! Walk It! Bus It!*

In honor of National Bike Month students, staff, volunteers, community members and parents were encouraged to use alternative modes of transportation, whether on foot, two wheels, three wheels or public transit. SMMUSD congratulates all families and staff who participated from all Santa Monica schools.

The goal of the Santa Monica citywide challenge is to promote environmental sustainability by helping families establish healthy fitness habits, educating students about pedestrian and cycling rules, reducing traffic congestion and vehicle emissions, while improving community bonds.

BIWI was founded in 2007 by the Santa Monica High School's (Samohi) Solar Alliance group, a student run club at Samohi. To help grow the initiative, the District partnered with the City of Santa Monica Safe Routes to School program, which aims to reduce traffic congestion near schools, increase safety around local schools, improve air quality and educate students about the rules of walking and cycling so they can travel through the city safely.

Other participating schools included McKinley Elementary School, Lincoln Middle School, Will Rogers Learning Community, Roosevelt Elementary, John Adams Middle School, Edison Language Academy, Santa Monica Alternative School House and Santa Monica High School.

“Franklin Elementary is thrilled to be honored with the Golden Sneaker,” said Franklin Elementary Principal Eran Zeevi. “Our school community has really come together to show support through many aspects, including promoting the importance of being ‘Green.’ There was such an impact in bringing students, parents and staff together to support such a worthy cause.”

To help increase public transit ridership the Fareless System Initiative was added in 2022. Students were encouraged to use their TAP cards for free public transit rides through Big Blue Bus and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The Golden Sneaker trophy will be displayed at Franklin Elementary School until the next BIWIBI event in May 2023.

Written by Esmi Careaga, Communications Specialist



Franklin students posing for photo.



Franklin students on bikes and scooters.

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