[DATE]

Dear Neighbor,

To improve student health, raise academic achievement, build community, and foster environmental awareness, [NAME OF SCHOOL] will be starting a Park & Walk Program to enable students who are driven to school by parents and caregivers to experience the joys and reap the benefits of walking to school.

Starting on [DAY, MONTH, DATE] at [TIME], parent and caregiver vehicles will drop off students near [DROP-OFF LOCATION] where they will be met by school staff and volunteers, who will then accompany children on a walk along a designated route to school. We’re calling this [NAME OF PARK AND WALK]. The [NAME OF PARK AND WALK] will continue [FREQUENCY i.e. DAY OF WEEK] through the fall, weather permitting. It will resume in the spring.

Parents and children are strongly encouraged to participate and walk with us. As a neighbor, you are invited to join the walk too! If you are unable to walk the whole way, consider giving us a friendly wave from your yard. You may also notice more cars on your street during [NAME OF PARK AND WALK]. Please remember to drive with care around our students. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we get our program off the ground. If you have any questions or suggestions to help things run more smoothly, please contact [NAME OF PARK AND WALK LEADER, PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS].

Fifty years of research on the connection between physical activity and academic achievement suggest that students who walk arrive at school more alert and ready to learn. A growing body of research suggests a walk in nature provides mental health benefits too. Indeed, I believe our students will love interacting with their neighbors and walking to school with friends, classmates, staff and volunteers.

Sincerely,

[NAME OF PRINCIPAL]

Principal, [NAME OF SCHOOL]

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**If you would like to volunteer as a Greeter, Crossing Guard or Walk Along Volunteer, please contact [NAME OF PARK AND WALK LEADER, PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS] Thank you for supporting our students’ success!**

INSERT MAP WITH DROP-OFF LOCATION AND WALKING ROUTE