

Does your child ride a school bus to school or other activities?

If your child ever rides a school bus, you should be concerned about your child's exposure to dangerous air pollution. Here's why:

- Diesel exhaust gets trapped inside the bus - through open windows, the door and floorboards – filling the cabin with pollution right where children breathe.
- The result is air that is up to 5 times as dirty as outside air. This outside air already fails federal health-based air quality standards.
- Diesel exhaust lodges deep in children's lungs and has been linked to asthma attacks, cancer, impaired lung development, chronic bronchitis and heart disease.

The good news is that **THIS CAN BE FIXED!**

- New York City Local Law 42 requires all school buses to be equipped with the best pollution filters available. The cheapest filters (DOCs) only reduce pollution by 20%-24% and the best filters (DPFs) reduce pollution by over 85%. **Therefore, DOCs do not live up to the spirit of Local Law 42, which is to protect children!**
- Installing DPFs on the tailpipe of the bus traps 90% of pollution before it reaches your child.
- Installing a filter on the pipe from the engine of the bus (a crankcase filter) eliminates 100% of the pollution that gets trapped inside of the school bus cabin.
- A one-time investment of \$8,000-\$15,000 per bus for DPF filters will provide clean air on thousands of trips to and from school.
- We must convince the city and private schools to require DPF filters to protect our children, and *not* use DOC filters. **Remember *DOC filters will keep your child at the Doctor's office.***

Here is what **YOU** can do to clean up your child's school bus:

1. Talk to your school. Or, if your child rides a school bus operated by a private company to camp or on field trips, ask the head of the school/camp/pastor to be a leader and require that the company provide clean air school buses for your children.
2. Distribute this fact sheet to other NYC parents, encouraging them to take action. Ensure that your school's Parents Teachers Association (PTA) knows the risks of riding dirty school buses.
3. Call the New York City Department of Education's Office of Pupil Transportation at 718-482-3810 and demand that they stop signing contracts with school bus companies that do not have DPFs and crankcase filters installed on their buses. ***Our kids and drivers deserve the best!***
4. For information about cleaning up school bus pollution and how to work with your school, **call Anhthu Hoang at WE ACT at (212) 961-1000 ext. 311, or Marian or Carlos at For a Better Bronx (FABB) at (718) 292-4344.**