Omro Middle School Bicycling Program

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Omro Middle School Physical Education

"Building a Bicycling Culture One Kid at a Time"







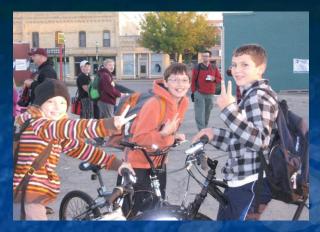
Omro Middle School Bicycling Program

Our Mission

We intend to build and maintain a well rounded bicycling culture. Our goals include:

- Improving the bicycling infrastructure of our schools and community.
- 2. Making it easier for everyone to both own a bicycle and use it frequently
- 3. Provide the education needed to properly maintain and safely ride bicycles.

We believe that the common bicycle can play a major part in the development of healthy individuals, communities, and planet.



Overview

Omro Middle School Bicycle Shoppe



Omro Middle School Bicycling Events & Activities

Looking to the Future





Omro Middle School Bicycle Shoppe

- Shoppe is located in equipment storage room adjacent to gymnasium
- ➤ The "Bicycle Fleet" is composed of about 60 bicycles
 - Bicycle Acquisition
 - Salvaging discarded bicycles
 - Garage sales
 - Omro Police Dept. used bicycles
 - Public donations
 - Private citizens search for used bikes and make periodic donations
 - Monetary gifts from former students



"Young Mechanics" Program

- Usually about 6-10 student participants
- Have the ability to work in Bicycle Shoppe after school or during noon recess and study hall with teacher approval
- Can work on their own bicycles, bicycles in the "Bike Fleet" or perform tune-ups on bicycles brought in by the general public.

"Bike Bucks"

- Work/hour equivalency notes paid to "Young Mechanics" for work done in the bicycle shop at a rate of 5 "Bike Bucks" per ½ hour of service.
- "Bike Bucks" can be redeemed for new parts, tires, and even sale bikes at a rate of 10 "Bike Bucks" = \$1.00



Omro Middle School Bicycle Shoppe

Bicycle Sales

- Bicycles that are repaired and restored are sold to students and the general public during the year
- A big bicycle sale is held every spring
- All proceeds from bicycle sales are put back into the program to purchase tools, new parts/tires, and to fund the building of a cyclocross course

Other Financial Support

- In addition to funds raised through the bicycle sales and tune-ups, the bicycle shoppe also has received funding through various grants
 - Recently awarded grants include The Kohler Foundation and The Dane County Bicycling Club grants for the purchase of new tools, work benches, stools, and repair stands

Omro Middle School Bicycle Shoppe

Partnership formed in 2009 with "Neshkoro/Marquette County Communities for Healthy Youth" to repair and restore bicycles they have received through donations



Omro Middle School Bicycling Events & Activities

- PhyEd Classes
- Noon Hour Program
- > 8th Grade Bicycle Field Trip
- > 6th Grade Environmental Retreat
- Bicycle / Fitness Trail
- Cyclocross/Bicycle Skill Course
- Annual Faculty Bike Tour

8th Grade Bicycle Field Trip

(A.K.A. "Bike Junto")

- End-of-year class trip for 8th grade students
- 30 mile bicycle tour which includes approximately 100 students and 30 teacher/parent chaperones
- Teams of 8-9 students are sent out with chaperones at 9 minutes intervals with clues to their first destination
- Omro PD is also involved



Photo Courtesy of Oshkosh Northwestern

8th Grade Bicycle Field Trip

(A.K.A. "Bike Junto")

- Stations are 2-3 miles apart and to receive their next clue teams must solve various problems/riddles, or complete certain tasks
 - Adult "Station Masters" give tasks and ask questions involving bicycle riding rules and safety, math, language arts, social studies, science, art, along with other physical challenges





8th Grade Bicycle Field Trip

(A.K.A. "Bike Junto")

- Points are awarded to teams for successful completion of tasks
- Several hundred dollars of donated recreational door prizes are handed out
- Total points determine how many door prizes each team receives





Photos Courtesy of Oshkosh Northwestern

6th Grade Environmental Retreat



- Each September the entire 6th grade class participates
- 3 day/2 night retreat at Camp Lucerne near Neshkoro
- Students are instructed about road and single track off-road riding techniques
- Bicycles from the Bike Shoppe "Bicycle Fleet" are used



Bicycle/Fitness Trail

"Fox Trail"

- Trail features include:
 - > 22 fit trail exercise stations
 - > 18 hole disc golf course
 - Several benches
 - > 2 wooden trestles
 - Section of trail meanders through school woods





So far over \$60,000 has been invested in the trail all of which has been either donated or secured through a series of small grants

Cyclocross Course/Bicycle Skill Park

- Ongoing development of a ¾ mile cyclocross/skill park course on school property
- Course features include:
 - Varied surfaces
 - Serpentine trails through tree plantation
 - Barriers/obstacles
 - These features will, at times, require riders to get off and carry their bikes
 - > 80 foot zig-zag bridge/Eagle Scout Project



Cyclocross Course/Bicycle Skill Park

- Instruction in Cyclocross racing has been offered the past several years during our middle school Career & Hobby Day held each May
- Vision of beginning an after school racing program in the near future





Omro Students Using Cyclocross Course

Bicycle Train / Walking Wednesday Program

- Program kick-off coincided with National Bike to Work/School Week in May of 2010
- Program done in conjunction with Omro SRTS Program
- Bicycle Train modeled after the Walking Wednesday (Walking School Bus) program which was started in the fall of 2009
- National SRTS Mini-Grant was secured to fund the signage to mark safe walking/biking routes to school which is utilized by the Bicycle Train and Walking Wednesday programs



First Walking School Bus, International Walk to School Day, October 2009

Bicycle Train Program







First Bicycle Train – Thursday, May 20th, 2010

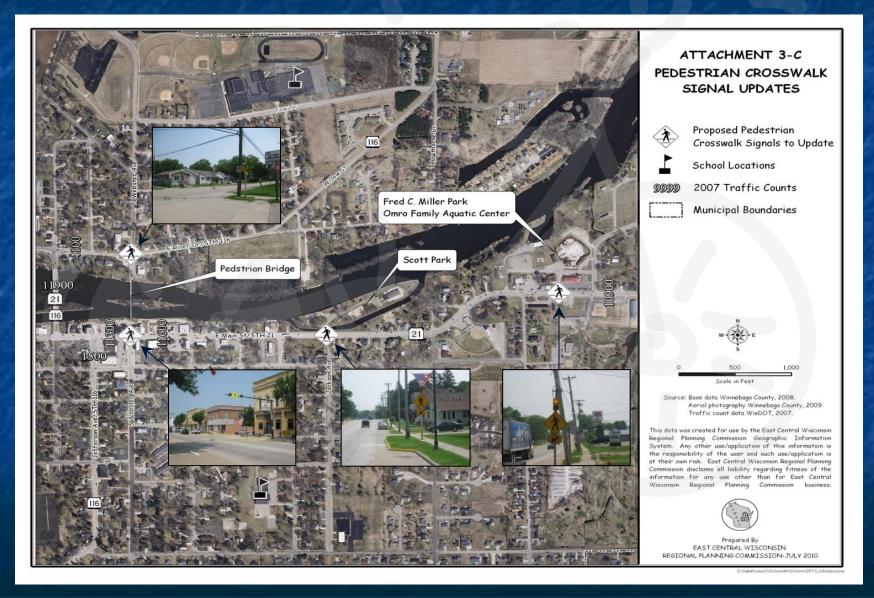
Looking to the Future

Omro SRTS Grant

- SRTS Grant Awarded in October 2010
- Improved crosswalk signals/signage on State Highway 21 and State Highway 116
- Enhancements to the bicycle education/cyclocross course
- Construction of new covered bicycle shelter/storage facility
 - This building will be the future home of the Bicycle Shoppe

Looking to the Future

Crosswalk Signage/Signal Improvements on STH 21 and STH 116



Looking to the Future Location of Future Covered Bicycle Shelter/Storage Facility & Enhancements to Bicycle Education/Cyclocross Course



Looking to the Future

Planned Covered Bicycle Shelter/Storage Facility



"The Omro Way"

Idea Generation

- Genius = 10% inspiration + 90% perspiration
- Brainstorm with "Like" thinkers
- Everyone wants to make a difference make it easy for them
- Let the idea "Stew"
- Think big/start small

Implementation

- Build it and they will use it
- KISS
- ID resources
- Evolution is key for sustainability
- "All Call" for putting it together



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Thank You!