



National Bike to School Day (5/7/2104) Recap

Based on school champion reports, 4,258 students used alternative, sustainable transportation to get to school on National Bike to School Day. With several schools not reporting specific counts, we estimate the number was over 5000!

Twenty-eight schools participated this year, including Adams, Adelante, Franklin, Harding, McKinley, Monroe, Peabody, SB Community Academy, Washington, Goleta Valley JH, La Colina JH, La Cumbre JH & Dos Pueblos HS (all from SB Unified School District); Hope, Monte Vista & Vieja Valley (all from Hope School District); Brandon, Ellwood, Foothill, Hollister, Isla Vista, Kellogg, La Patera & Mountain View (all from Goleta Union School District); Cold Spring (from Cold Spring Union School District), & Montecito Union (from Montecito Union School District); Aliso and Carpinteria Family School (from Carpinteria Unified School District).

This year the event got a boost from [Yardi Systems](#), who donated four bikes we were raffling off to four schools that had over 50% student participation. Nine schools topped 50%: Aliso (54%), Ellwood (55%), Harding (56%), Hope (59%), Kellogg (60%), La Colina JH (59%), La Patera (65%), Monte Vista (55%) and Mountain View (57%). Of those nine schools, the four schools that won the bike raffle (randomly drawn at COAST's May General Meeting) were Ellwood, La Colina JH, Monte Vista and Mountain View! Each winning school then selected one lucky student to win the bike and a new safety helmet from COAST.

Here are the winning students' names and some of their smiling faces in the attached photographs: Ellwood School second-grader Mathilde Morales, La Colina JH seventh-grader Lucas Eilbacher, Monte Vista second-grader Brian Ochoa and Mountain View first-grader Noah Runyen. Some other schools that worked really hard to exceed 50% but didn't quite make it deserve an honorable mention: Brandon (45%), Foothill (42%), Hollister (45%) and Monroe (47%). Keep up the great work everybody!

COAST gives huge thanks to Yardi Systems for donating the four bikes! Those bikes and helmets were great enthusiasm-builders for the event. We had a lot of school champions asking, "Who won!?" The champions were more engaged and motivated this year than ever...nothing like some outstanding prizes to gain some attention! COAST and a Measure A CycleMAYnia mini-grant also contributed prizes to every participating school, including spoke lights, reusable bags and blinky clip-lights. National Bike to School Day is one of many events in [CycleMAYnia](#): the South Coast's month-long celebration of cycling!

COAST hopes that when families decide to use sustainable transportation on these special event days, they will experience the benefits it brings and consider making that decision more regularly. We also hope school organizers had so much fun that they will consider promoting monthly or weekly walk and bike events throughout the year!

Congratulations to the winning schools and students, and big thanks to all the principals, teachers, staff, parents, students and community members who made this event happen--part of the Safe Routes to School program organized by COAST: the Coalition for Sustainable Transportation.

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