

# High School Programming

## CASE STUDY

EDUCATION ENCOURAGEMENT ENGAGEMENT EVALUATION **ENGINEERING** EQUITY | URBAN RURAL SUBURBAN

## Background

In early 2022, new federal funding extended the eligibility of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) partnerships to include high schools (grades 9-12). In the last few years, the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School Program has added events, materials, and opportunities exclusively for high school students, such as the Safe Streets Smart Trips High School Video Contest, the High School Ambassador Program, Car-Free-Campus Day, and more.

## Overview

Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical High School (UCT) serves over 800 students from the five communities of Bourne, Falmouth, Marion, Sandwich, and Wareham. The campus sits up on a hill, overlooking the Cape Cod Canal, and offers 15 various technical programs designed to enhance educational opportunities with relevant career and technical experience. Interested in improving the safety of students traveling on and off campus, UCT partnered with SRTS to conduct an Arrival/Dismissal Observation. After receiving feedback from the SRTS Program with recommendations to improve pedestrian safety on the school campus, UCT students got right to work making infrastructural changes. The students operated the machinery utilizing the skills and resources from their technical programs to relocate a pedestrian walkway to align with an ADA-compliant crosswalk.

## Lessons Learned

- ✓ Vocational technical high schools have a unique opportunity to collaborate with SRTS by utilizing the students' technical experience in making infrastructure changes to a school zone
- ✓ Inviting high school students to be a part of an Arrival/Dismissal Observation develops intellectual curiosity within the transportation planning process and provides students with more context prior to making infrastructural changes



## Impacts



Empower the application of learned technical skills in a real-world environment via occupationally specific instruction



Think critically about the transportation safety of peers and the effectiveness of the current school zone infrastructure