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Back To School Safety Tips

Thousands of students throughout the state travel back and forth to school every day. Whether they're walking, biking, skateboarding or riding the bus, here are some safety tips from the Glendale Police Department to help keep them safe:

For Students - When walking, biking, or skateboarding to and from school:

- Have a primary and safe secondary route to and from school.
- The route should always be in view of others in the neighborhood.
- Walk or ride in groups.
- Wear reflective or bright colored clothing to increase your visibility.
- Have the appropriate bicycle or skateboard safety equipment; reflectors and lights (front and rear), helmets, knee and elbow pads.
- Pay attention to your surroundings; look both ways before crossing streets.
- Walk your bike across intersections.
- If a stranger, on foot or in a vehicle, approaches you, don't stop or talk to them. Go as fast and safely as you can to a safe place and tell an adult.

For Students - When riding school buses:

- While at the bus stop be patient and well behaved while waiting for the bus, and remain on the sidewalk.
- When the bus arrives remain in a straight single file line.
- Before entering or exiting the bus wait for the signal from the bus driver.
- Most importantly LISTEN and follow instructions from the bus driver.

For Drivers - When driving in school zones:

- Be vigilant / observant, especially in school zones, near bus stops and while backing out of driveways.
- Use all mirrors and visible angles when traveling through a school zone.
- Obey traffic lights and street signs (take extra time at intersections near schools to make sure they are clear).
- Avoid distractions like texting, phone conversations or loud music
- ALWAYS be prepared to stop.

And always, always be aware of you surrounding and stay away from strangers.

For further information contact Sgt. Brent Coombs or Officer Gerald Sydnor from the Glendale Police Public Information Office at 602 590-5733.

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