

**August 24, 2011**

**News Release**

*For Immediate Release*

**Be Cautious in School Zones**

As the school year begins tomorrow, the SPD would like to remind motorists to be aware of students as they travel to and from school daily. Officers are called throughout the year to accidents involving children in and around school zones. Many children do not pay close enough attention to the roadway as they cross, inadvertently walking in front of a vehicle.

Many accidents are completely preventable if motorists slow down and obey the posted speed limits. Officers will continue to be out in force during school months patrolling school zones to ensure children's safety.

Parents are encouraged to have their children walk in groups as this creates a more visible cue for motorists and is the number one deterrent for would be predators. Parents are also encouraged to speak openly with children about stranger danger and what a child should do if approached by someone.

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Release authorized by: Maj. Kevin Routh