



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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School Begins This Week – Drive Carefully

Lindenhurst, Illinois –

The Lindenhurst Police Department wants to remind the community that school will be back in session, beginning this week with Lakes Community High School. BJ Hooper and Millburn Middle School will begin classes next week.

As part of our commitment to public safety, the Lindenhurst Police Department will be conducting an education and enforcement campaign which is aimed at school zones around the Village.

Officers will be looking for drivers that are speeding in school zones, using mobile devices, illegally passing school buses, failing to yield at crosswalks, and any other violation that may endanger school children on their way to and from school. The enforcement will be conducted mainly before and after school. “The focus is on increased safety as we begin another school year, but we also want to increase awareness of distracted driving and also pedestrian safety,” according to Lindenhurst Police Chief Thomas Jones.

Distracted driving is a major public safety issue and it is illegal to operate a motor vehicle on a roadway in the State of Illinois while using an electronic communication device, to include a hand-held cell phone. Additionally, drivers must stop and yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk.

Officers will be out conducting awareness campaigns at schools and crossings, interacting with parents and students to make them aware of safety precautions. “With schools opening this month, we know this is an exciting time for families,” Chief Jones

said. "To make the transition from summer vacation into the classroom as smooth as possible, we hope that community members will be alert while on the road and in school zones."

Parents should have a discussion with their child, including teenagers, about the risks of traveling to and from school.

- Be aware of their surroundings
- Do not be distracted by their mobile phones
- Be sure that vehicles stop prior to entering a crosswalk or crossing the street
- When exiting the school bus, be sure the bus driver can see you
- Prior to crossing in front of the bus when its lights and stop arm are engaged, be sure that vehicles have stopped in both directions and that the bus driver has signaled for you to cross

The Lindenhurst Police Department encourages people to report speeding and reckless driving anywhere in the Village, but especially in school zones. If you have any questions regarding this enforcement campaign, please contact the Lindenhurst Police Department at (847) 356-5400.

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