TEEN DISTRACTED DRIVING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“Let’s keep it safe out there”**

*These announcements can be broadcast to students at assemblies or morning/weekly PA announcements. They can be read by a student or a teacher/faculty member.*

1. This might freak you out, but did you know motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States? More than homicide and suicide combined. And, think about this the next time you grab your phone to text with your friends. A texting driver is 23 times more likely to get into an accident than a non-texting driver. Not only is texting while driving against the law in Colorado, it’s extremely dangerous. Eyes on the road. Not on your phone. Let’s keep it safe out there.

2. When you’re driving, you should be driving.

Not texting.

Not talking on the phone.

Not doing your hair.

Not eating breakfast.

Not turned around talking to someone in the backseat.

With distracted driving-related crashes and fatalities on the rise, it’s time to drive.

And that’s all.

The age group with the greatest proportion of distracted drivers is under the age of 20. That’s you!

So, time to take driving seriously.

Eyes on the road.

Not on your phone.

Let’s keep it safe out there.

3. When you’re in your car, it’s tempting to text while you’re driving. But, it’s not safe. Even if you wait until you’re at a stoplight, or paused in traffic, it’s not safe. What’s more, it’s against the law. As a teen driver, you can be pulled over for texting or talking on the phone while driving. There’s a way to prevent this. It might sound crazy, but you could put your phone away while you’re driving. Put it in a place where you can’t get to it - your glove compartment, or your backseat. You could also turn the notification alerts off on your phone. The less you hear it, the less you’re tempted to use it. Focus on driving, not on your phone. Let’s keep it safe out there.

4. Hey students, did you know texting or talking on your phone while driving is illegal? It is. You could be pulled over and ticketed. Here’s an idea. Why don’t you borrow thumbs from your friend? Your passenger gets the honor of texting or answering the phone for you while you’re driving. It’s like you have a personal secretary in your car. In return, you can lend your thumbs to a friend when you’re in their car. Eyes on the road, not on your phone. Let’s keep it safe out there.

5. Hey (*name of high school*) students,

When you’re in the car, consider this:

You’re controlling a vehicle moving at 60 or 70 miles per hour.

What makes you think you can look away from the road for even a second?

Though talking to your friends, or fixing your hair, or changing the music on your iPod seems really important, it’s not as important as keeping your eyes on the road.

Driving deserves your undivided attention.

Distracted driving-related car crashes are on the rise.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States. More than homicide and suicide combined.

That’s scary.

Don’t become a statistic.

Let’s keep it safe out there.

6. You know what’s more important that the donut you’re devouring on the way to school?

Your Life.

Distracted driving-related crashes and fatalities are on the rise.

And, in 2009, the highest proportion of distracted drivers in fatal crashes were under 20.

That’s a frightening statistic.

So, don’t break the law.

It’s that simple.

Eyes on the road.

Let’s keep it safe out there.

7. Let me throw a few stats your way:

A texting driver is 23 times more likely to get into an accident than a non-texting driver.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When driving 55 mph, that’s enough time to cover the length of a football field.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves.

If you don’t want to become a statistic, then put down your phone and drive.

It’s not safe to text or talk and drive, and it’s against the law.

Come on.

Let’s keep it safe out there.

8. It’s fun to drive with your friends in the car. Playing music. Laughing. Gossiping. What’s not fun is when your friends become a distraction and you rear-end the car in front of you at a stop light because you weren’t paying attention to driving.

Though you think you can handle it, it’s best to keep distractions out of the car. And, that includes your pals. Focus on the road. Let’s keep it safe out there.