



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

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First School Day Arrives In Flagler County

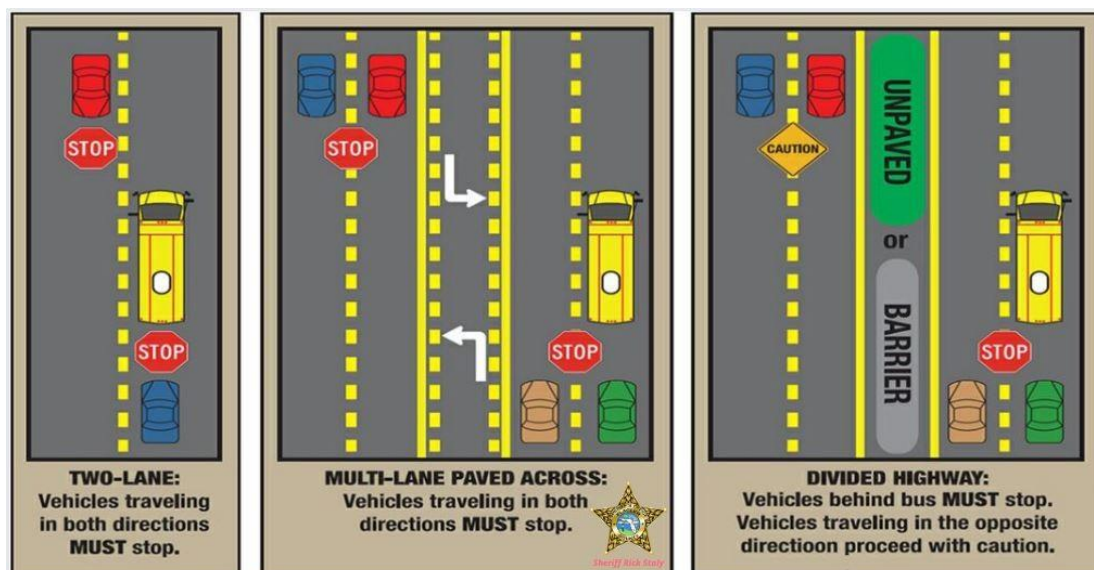
BUNNELL, FL – The first day of class for the 2022-23 Flagler County Schools year began today (August 10).

Members of the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) command staff joined our School Resource Deputies (SRD) at every public school in the county this morning to welcome the children and teachers as they embark on another year of learning.

"The first day of school is always exciting," says Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly. "We'll be there to show our support and to ensure that our children are safe going to school."

FCSO command staff – including Sheriff Staly – will also be on all public school campuses this afternoon for dismissal.

A new school year means the return of the big yellow school buses on the road, so Sheriff Staly wants to remind drivers of the traffic rules when encountering a stopped school bus.



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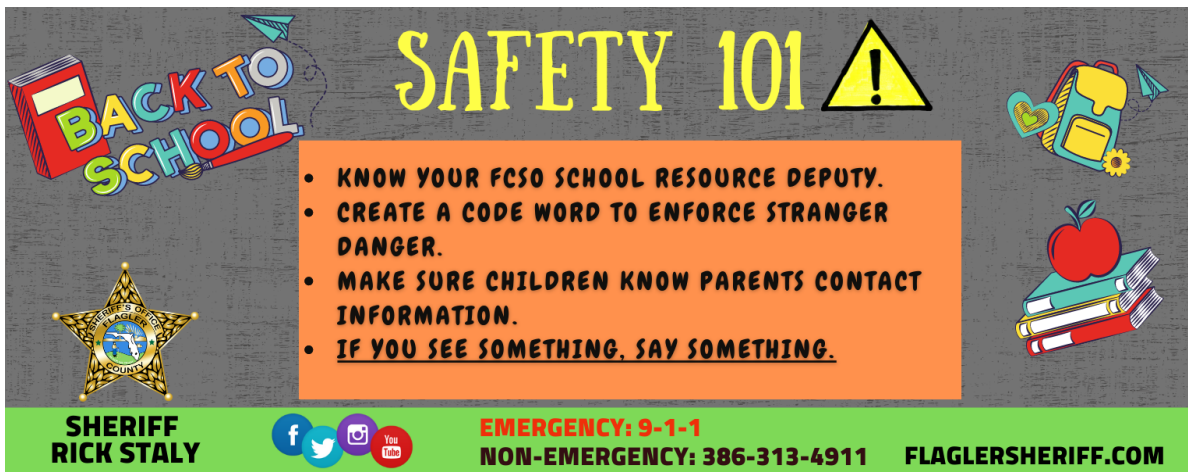


“Drivers should also be more careful when going through school zones and residential areas, especially near school bus stops,” said Sheriff Staly. “Crosswalks are another thing to watch for, whether there’s crossing guards present or not. Kids are our future, so let’s work together to make sure they don’t get hurt by careless driving.”

FCSO will have extra traffic deputies around school zones and bus stop locations to ensure safety for all involved. Patrol deputies and our volunteer Citizen Observer Patrol units will assist.

Message boards have been deployed throughout the county reminding drivers that safety is as simple as **ABC - Always Be Careful**. The boards are located in areas where heavier traffic is expected due to the public schools being back in session.


The beginning of the school year is also a good time for parents to talk to their children about basic safety, including how to handle strangers, who to go to if they need help and to not be a bully or make threats.



BACK TO SCHOOL

SAFETY 101

- **KNOW YOUR FCSO SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTY.**
- **CREATE A CODE WORD TO ENFORCE STRANGER DANGER.**
- **MAKE SURE CHILDREN KNOW PARENTS CONTACT INFORMATION.**
- **IF YOU SEE SOMETHING. SAY SOMETHING.**

SHERIFF RICK STALY 

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1
NON-EMERGENCY: 386-313-4911 **FLAGLERSHERIFF.COM**

“As always, we recommend that if you see something suspicious, say something to us,” Sheriff Staly noted. “That’s always the way to go if you think there might be an issue.”

For any non-emergency issues on the first day of school, please call the Flagler County Sheriff’s Office Communications Center at (386) 313-4911 for a Deputy to respond. For emergencies, call 9-1-1.

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Commander Joseph Barile monitoring the car line at Belle Terre Elementary School in Palm Coast.

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