

# CASE Newsletter

California Association for Safety Education Volume XXIV, No. 4 - Dec. 2013

## National Teen Driver Safety Week Launched in October at Sacramento's River City High School

By Sarina Phoung and Tommy Rickard, River City High School

National Teen Driver Safety week kicked off at River City High School on October 21 with a visit from the Impact Teen Drivers (ITD) program, which is an educational program that travels to schools across the nation informing students about safe driving and the consequences of being a distracted driver.

River City's Driver Education teacher, Mrs. Shannon Woods, and her students worked with staff from ITD to host an event to raise awareness about distracted driving. Students who attended the event learned that over 4000 teens die and half a million are injured every year in car accidents. Many of these accidents are caused when the driver is distracted. A cell phone, a passenger, loud music, anything that takes your focus off the road can be detrimental to your well-being.



Photo: River City senior Nadia Benafghoul

Leeana Clegg shares her story with River City High School students

In order to enlighten underage drivers on how to avoid possible dangers, ITD encouraged students to be aware of the rules and regulations of the Graduated Driver Licensing program (GDL), which is a three stage licensing system for future drivers under the age of 18. The logic behind the GDL is to allow young drivers to safely gain driving experience before obtaining full driving privileges.

In California, new drivers under the age of eighteen have certain restrictions under the GDL that include no passengers in the car for the first 12 months. According to ITD, each passenger in a car increases the risk of an accident by 100%. They feel that if more teens knew the dangers of distracted driving, fatalities could possibly decrease.

The event consisted of a short film and 5 stations that involved students interacting with possible threats while driving. The short film at the beginning of the event detailed the life of 8th grader Hunter Clegg, whose life was cut short after a car accident that led to his death. The collision occurred when Hunter and friends were distracting the seventeen year old driver, who only had his GDL and was illegally driving with passengers.

One of the speakers who made an appearance at the event was Hunter Clegg's mother, Leeana Clegg. She spoke about her son's death and told students, "His death was 100% preventable. Simple decisions you make inside a car can change your life forever."

## Legislation Update

Governor Brown signed **SB 194** (Galgiani) which will prohibit drivers under 18 years of age from operating an electronic wireless communication device, even if it is equipped with a hands-free-device. CASE joined with other traffic safety support groups to advocate for passage of this legislation.

The governor vetoed **AB 1113** (Frazier) which would have added more graduated license restrictions. The legislation would have set the nighttime curfew at 10:00 p.m. (now 11:00 p.m.) and extended the six months permit time to nine months. The governor asked for more education for teens rather than more regulations, pointing to state agencies such as CHP, DMV, and OTS to craft new teen traffic safety education programs. Other bills on older teens and adult electronic device uses were deferred to 2014.

## Strategic Highway Safety Plan Task Force Update

The last meeting of the Challenge Area 6 task force on young drivers occurred in November in Sacramento. The big news is that a representative of the California Department of Education has joined the group to add input along with the other state agencies and non-profits including CASE.

The governor's vetoing of AB 1113 and stating that state agencies should do more to foster teen driver safety is providing a motivation for the task force. The group will first scope all the existing programs and gather their goals and activities into a centralized knowledge data system that can be coordinated by the task force through the OTS and CHP, along with help from the DMV and CDE. The task force will meet again in January.



## CASE Calendar

**Dec. 2013** - National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month (3D). Contact: [www.nhtsa.gov/StopImpairedDriving](http://www.nhtsa.gov/StopImpairedDriving)

**March 15, 2014** - 62nd Annual CASE Conference, Hyatt Place Ontario/Rancho Cucamonga, 4760 East Mills Circle, Ontario, CA. Hotel Reservations: (909) 980-2200. (Ask for the CASE Conference rate: Code G-CASE).

**April 2014** - National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Contact: [www.distraction.gov](http://www.distraction.gov)

**May 2014** - National Youth Traffic Safety Month. Contact: [www.noys.org](http://www.noys.org)

**July 13-16, 2014** - ADTSEA Conference, Double Tree by Hilton Wichita Airport, Wichita, Kansas. Contact: [www.adtsea.org](http://www.adtsea.org)

### Teacher Preparation Courses

For information on Driver Education teacher prep courses in the Northern California and Riverside areas, contact **Abril Chavando** at UCRiverside School of Extended Education: [achavando@ucx.ucr.edu](mailto:achavando@ucx.ucr.edu)

## Nominations Requested for CASE Spring Election

Members of CASE interested in elective office for the term beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2016, should submit the following information to the Nominations and Elections Committee:

- A statement of qualifications
- A resume of professional service and activity in the Association

**Nominations must be received by January 22, 2014** for the offices of President, Vice-President, Northern Region Representative, and Southern Region Representative. Please send the information to:

CASE Nominations Committee  
25 Shelbourne Place  
San Mateo, CA 94402

## CASE Board Approves Changes to Constitution

The proposed amendments to the CASE Constitution published in the June *Newsletter* were approved unanimously by the Board of Directors at the October 22 Board meeting. The revisions eliminated the office of President-Elect because the current size of the membership limits candidates for association offices. Two-year terms for President and Vice-President allow for an adequate transition in leadership to occur.

## CASE Newsletter

Published by the California Association for Safety Education

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CASE Web Site: [www.casewebsite.org](http://www.casewebsite.org)

## 2014 CASE Conference

The 62nd Annual CASE Conference will be held at the Hyatt Place Ontario/Rancho Cucamonga Hotel, Saturday, March 15, 2014, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The hotel is located near the Ontario Airport at 4760 East Mills Circle, Ontario, CA 91764.

The conference registration fee is \$125 for CASE members and \$165 for non-members. The fee includes lunch. A conference registration form is provided below and is also available on the CASE website at [www.casewebsite.org](http://www.casewebsite.org)

A complimentary breakfast is included for hotel guests. If you do not stay at the hotel, the breakfast is available for \$10.

The hotel reservations number is (909) 980-2200. Ask for the CASE Conference rate (code: G-CASE).

## 2014 CASE Conference Registration Form

**Registration must be received no later than February 22, 2014**

Mail check to: CASE Conference, 25 Shelbourne Place, San Mateo, CA 94402

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School District/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **CASE members:** \$125 if received by February 22, 2014/ \$165 if received after February 22. **Non-members:** \$165 if received by February 22/ \$205 if received after February 22. *The non-member fee includes a one-year CASE membership.*

**School District Purchase Orders not accepted** (if your school district is paying for registration, a district check must be sent with this registration form attached).