

CASE Newsletter

California Association for Safety Education Volume XXVI, No. 2 - June 2015

63rd Annual CASE Conference Fairfield Inn by Marriott & Hampton Inn 2400-2410 Naglee Road, Tracy, CA

Saturday, October 10, 2015, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Join us on October 10, 2015 from 8 am to 7 pm in the San Joaquin County city of Tracy for an information-packed traffic safety education conference! We are planning a stimulating and interesting program with presentations from top educators and experienced professionals in traffic safety education.

- Our 2015 conference promises to excite you! This year's theme is "Driver Safety...Are we there yet?" Saturday morning will begin with a complimentary breakfast for hotel guests and conference registration. Then off we go to the nearby Altamont Speedway to join parents and students in a safety spin around the track with the "Get Real Behind the Wheel" driving program. In addition to the hands-on experience at the Speedway, we will be introduced to the new Chevrolet Spark EV all-electric car. We are anticipating that this newsworthy event will include special guests from the DMV and OTS. By lunchtime we should be enjoying our presenters delivering cutting-edge information in the following topic areas: **CHP, Caltrans, Amtrak, Seasonal Driving Techniques, Personal Safety, Impact Teen Drivers, State Farm, New Curriculum, All About Tires, Understanding RV's and School Buses, Parent Testimony, and Student Testimony.**
- Please register early for both the conference and hotel. We have saved rooms for both Friday and Saturday, October 9 & 10 at the Fairfield Inn and the Hampton Inn in Tracy. These facilities are located right next to each other, and both feature indoor swimming pools, work-out rooms, and a complimentary breakfast. These are very nice queen and king rooms priced from \$99 to \$129 (plus tax). Phone (209) 833-0135 for reservations at the Fairfield Inn or (209) 833-0483 for the Hampton Inn.
- Stay the weekend and drive home refreshed on Sunday morning. BE SAFE and get a CASE conference discount with your early hotel reservation at either Inn. Great raffle prizes will abound! Receive 10 extra raffle tickets with your early conference registration.
- Conference Registration Fee: \$125 for CASE members or \$165 for non-CASE members. The \$165 fee includes a one-year CASE membership. Make checks payable to **CASE Conference** (Registration Form is on page 2 of this *Newsletter*). Fee includes a catered BBQ lunch and a light dinner on Saturday. **Conference registration fee must be received by September 19, 2015 to qualify for the \$125 fee.** Registrations received after September 19 are \$165 (\$205 for non-members).

Caltrans' "Distraction Zone" game offers teens safe driving education and a chance to win cash prizes

Teen drivers are beginning to understand that distracted driving is real danger on the road. However, navigating highway work zones—where drivers must be especially alert—is not high on their list of dangers to be concerned about.

The fact is thousands of crashes happen in work zones every year in California, mostly involving rear-end collisions, injuring and killing drivers and passengers. Teen drivers are most at-risk, being three times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash, with speeding, inexperience and distractions as the most common causes.

Caltrans is working to combat preventable teen driving fatalities by connecting work zone safety and distracted driving education through an interactive driving game called "Distraction Zone." Driving games are some of the most popular electronic games among teens; unfortunately, most reward unsafe driving. Distraction Zone is specifically designed to reinforce key safe driving behaviors such as avoiding distractions, being alert, and slowing down when approaching highway work zones. The mobile and online format is fun and engages teen drivers, while also actively reinforcing safe driving skills. Mobile versions of the game are available for download on the App Store and Google Play, and the online version is played at www.DistractionZone.com. As always, teens should not play the game or text while driving.

An added incentive to entice teen game play is a contest being run by the campaign's media partner, iHeart Media. The Distraction Zone contest invites teen players to submit their highest game score for a chance to win cash prizes. The top prize, donated by iHeart Media, is \$500. Players can play multiple times to achieve their best score and enter the contest between now and June 15, 2015.

Distraction Zone provides an opportunity to learn and practice safe driving behavior before trying it out in the real world, where real lives are at stake. Caltrans is committed to helping eliminate work zone fatalities in California through educational tools and outreach efforts across the state. To learn more, visit BeWorkZoneAlert.com.

Source: Caltrans, May 2015



CASE President Genny Claxton and member Kristen Claxton show Case's support for Caltrans and their efforts on our roadways!

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CASE Calendar

July 12-15, 2015 - 59th Annual ADTSEA Conference, Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Road Raleigh, NC. Reservations: 919-872-2323. Contact: www.adtsea.org

July 10-13, 2015 - NSSP Annual Teen Leadership Conference, Raleigh, NC. Reservations: 919-872-2323. Contact: www.adtsea.org

August 19 - Sept. 7, 2015 - Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. Contact: www.nhtsa.gov/StopImpairedDriving

September 13-19, 2015 - Child Passenger Safety Week. Contact: www.safercar.gov

October 10, 2015 - 63rd Annual CASE Conference, Tracy, CA. Contact: www.casewebsite.org

2015 CASE Conference Registration Form

Registration must be received no later than September 19, 2015

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 September 19, 2015/ \$165 if received after September 19. **Non-members:** \$165 if received by September 19/\$205 if received after September 19. *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).

Quality Driver Education must be restored in our high schools!

By Bart Schwarz, CASE Vice President

I am drafting this article to entice the participation of all driver education stake holders. Whether you are a classroom instructor, an administrator or advocate of Driver Education, I am asking you to both attend and solicit participation in our 2015 CASE Conference October 10, 2015. As the Vice President I am actively seeking the restoration of Driver Education in all publicly-funded high schools. We have literally fallen asleep behind the wheel so to speak! I will be sharing the curriculum that I have developed in my 30 years as a Driver Education teacher at the conference this year. As the majority of the state's school districts have eliminated Driver Education classes in their districts, I can't understand how we can allow the State Department of Education and districts to allow this travesty to occur.

I guess I am partly to blame. I have been teaching Driver Education in a vacuum within my classrooms and districts (Escondido Union High School – Valley Center Pauma Unified) while my surrounding districts and the Department of Education have allowed our state-mandated curriculum to fade away, apparently regarded as insignificant and perhaps irrelevant! As one of my morning rituals, I watch the news while eating breakfast. I can't recall a week in which I have not heard of DUI crashes and teens crashing vehicles, many of whom were unlicensed! There are numerous traffic and safety incidents affecting our communities and personal lives. I often wonder if the victims had the opportunity to have quality driver education offered at their particular high schools? I not sure if you are aware of the fact that many high school are not offering either health classes or driver education. At a time when Common Core and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) are being emphasized, how can we seriously take the most influential and practically-applied classes out of our schools? High school graduation percentages and test scores are a huge factor in educational arenas, yet we ignore the most significant factors affecting the students' transitional teen to adulthood journey.

Let's look at a very minimal breakdown of driver education-related curriculum in these areas:

Science: Physics, $F=MA$, vehicle weight, braking abilities, brake fade, traction coefficients, crumple zones, our vision, alcohol and drug influences upon one's body and factors related to operating a vehicle safely. One of the most commonly misconstrued concepts is that if two vehicles with nearly identical weights (mass) strike each other head on, headlights to headlights, approaching at 60 MPH would be the same as hitting a non-moveable object at 120 mph. Just go to Mythbusters on YouTube and view their crash testing results. What offers the most resistance to your modern vehicle's movement at 65 mph upon a level freeway or highway?

Technology & Engineering: Air bags, antilock brake systems, stability control, adaptive headlights, GPS navigation, lane departure warnings, TPS tire pressure sensors, self-dimming mirrors and headlights, radar detectors, LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) speed enforcement. I can't even begin to scratch the surface of the technological and engineering principles in our modern day vehicles in this article.

Mathematics: Distance = Rate x Time ($D=RT$) is on nearly every major mathematics test. Why do speedometers read in MPH (miles per hour)? Wouldn't FPS (feet per second) be far more relevant to a driver? What formula does the CHP use for calculating a vehicle's speed from their aircraft? With markings on the major roadways, the aircraft paces the vehicle and then clocks its (the planes) pace on those markings. Taking the seconds it takes the aircraft to travel from one marker to the next while pacing the vehicle below, they calculate the FPS. The FPS is then divided by 1.467 to convert it to MPH. Obviously the aircraft must maintain a visual of the vehicle and radio in ground support to apprehend the violator. Does a larger diameter tire on your lifted truck make your speedometer read faster or slower? Why? Speaking of transmissions, what does overdrive actually mean? How do you figure the MPG (Miles per Gallon) on your vehicle without an onboard computer?

I have hopefully garnered your attention in this article. Perhaps you would like to share one of your lessons with me? I didn't even touch on the liabilities, insurance or the court system. The list goes on and on. Please work with me to bring a truly inspiring inquisitive Driver Education back to our high schools and make a difference in our students' lives. I'm willing to offer an entire day of training at the conference if we could coordinate an office or classroom. The curriculum will be provided for free, quite literally hundreds of hours of creative work for you to take back to your classrooms. I can tell you from personal experience, any conference that I have attended in my 35 years of teaching was a waste of my time if I couldn't bring something back to my classroom and students! Quite literally the rubber meets the road in the heat and passion of our classrooms, particularly Driver Education! I want to see and meet you at our CASE conference in October! Bring a friend and any other traffic safety advocates.

NHTSA videos on YouTube

NHTSA's *Tire Wise* video is in an easy to view place: www.youtube.com/user/USDOTNHTSA (NHTSA's SaferCarTV YouTube channel). Additional videos for multiple NHTSA campaigns, along with vehicle crash test videos, can be found on that YouTube page.

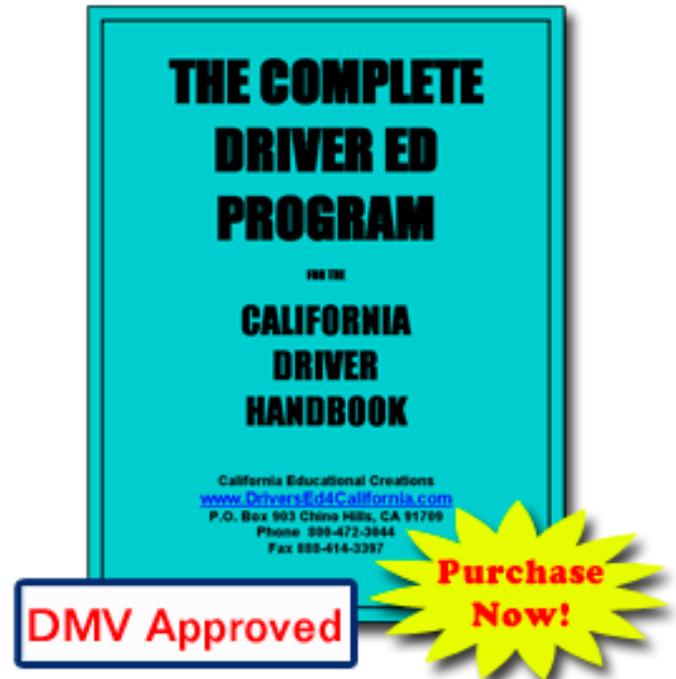


The video points out that tires can make the difference when it comes to driving safe and smooth. Everything rides on them being in prime condition. Yet when it comes to keeping them properly maintained, too few people actually take the time to ensure that their tires are road ready. Tire maintenance can save lives, and everyone is encouraged to become "Tire Wise".

The Most Comprehensive and Economical Driver Education Program for the Classroom!

THE COMPLETE DRIVER ED PROGRAM is the only program that works as a page-by-page interactive companion with the *California Driver Handbook*, published annually by the DMV. The handbook is the ultimate authority on the most current laws and rules of the road in California.

All of the DMV drivers license test questions come from the handbook. This program will have your students working section by section with the handbook through a series of comprehensive worksheets, terminology reviews, and test questions.



Updated to Synchronize with the 2015 California Driver Handbook from the DMV

Unlike other textbooks, this book comes in a durable 3-ring binder and may be photocopied for use in the classroom for only \$140.00, an **extremely economical solution** for educators on a budget.

Visit our website at www.DriversEd4California.com to see **samples** and get more info. **Order today from:**

California Educational Creations
www.DriversEd4California.com

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