

Be BRIGHT

Violence In and Around the School

Educators and school boards nationwide are working to improve school safety. Successful schools set clear guidelines for behavior. Students, teachers and parents can discuss the school's safety policy or work together to create one. Suspicious behavior and/or threats of violence that occur during school, or on the way to and from school, should be reported immediately to a school



official (such as administrator, teacher or counselor) or a responsible adult. The school will then follow procedures to address the issue with input from the school district office and local public safety agencies.

School Resource Officers also offer support and are required to teach students 180 hours of Law Related Education (LRE) per year.

Tips for Teens

Traveling To and From School Safely



- 1. Watch for strangers.** If you think you're being followed, continue walking toward your destination, but cross the street. Find a service station and wait until the stranger leaves. If somebody is following you in a car, take a picture of their license plate.
- 2. Keep personal belongings hidden.** Keep your cell phone, money, credit cards, jewelry and anything of value hidden.
- 3. Avoid distraction.** If you're wearing headphones, keep the volume down to hear everything around you. Better yet, put headphones away completely along with any other handheld device.
- 4. Take well-lit streets.** Don't go down a dark street even if it's a known route. Take a busier, well-lit street and/or walk with friends. Even with a group, always look for suspicious behavior.
- 5. Be aware of your surroundings.** Avoid walking by tall bushes, hedges, alleyways, empty lots or anywhere

that's remote or where somebody could hide. If you think you're being followed, call 9-1-1 and quickly run to a well-lit neighbor's house, service station, restaurant or shop.

- 6. In a mugging situation,** give the mugger what they ask for (as long as it's ONLY property). If they ask you to get into a car or go anywhere else - run! Create distance and yell, "Help!", "Police!" or "Fire!" The goal is to get away. But if someone is pointing a gun at you and asking for your phone, money or jewelry, just give it to them. Nothing is more valuable than your life.

The best way to be safe is to think safe!

Resources:

- [Guide for Preventing and Responding to School Violence](#)
- [School Resource Officer \(SRO\) Role in the School Safety Programs](#)
- [9 Ways To Keep Your Teen Safe From Muggers](#)

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