

OPERATION TEEN SAFE DRIVING

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

November 1, 2007

Dear Principal:

The Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police, and the Illinois State Board of Education are working with the Ford Motor Company Fund and the Governor's Highway Safety Association to save the lives of Illinois teens. Every year, more than 5,000 teens between the ages of 16 and 20 lose their lives in traffic crashes across the United States. While young males and females between the ages of 16 to 20 account for 7 percent of licensed drivers in Illinois, they are involved in 20 percent of motor vehicle-related fatalities and severe injuries in this state. The major reasons teens are killed or seriously injured in traffic crashes are **lack of safety belt use, drinking and driving, speed, fatigue, distracted driving and lack of driving experience.**

The Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Safety is soliciting applications from all Illinois high schools to develop and implement effective measures to combat the teen driving problem in Illinois. A total of 105 high schools will be awarded \$1000 grants to implement effective traffic safety programs from January 4–March 31, 2008. A copy of the attached application packet can also be found at www.buckleupillinois.org/teens.html. Completed applications should be sent to the following address via US mail or fax by **December 14, 2007**:

IDOT – Division of Traffic Safety
Attn: Michael R. Stout, Director
3215 Executive Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62703
217-782-4972
FAX: 217-782-9159
EMAIL: teen.safety@illinois.gov

We look forward to an exciting, life-saving program.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Stout
Director

cc: Driver Education Teacher

www.BUCKLEUPILLINOIS.org

