Palm Bay Promotes Back to School Safety

PALM BAY- The summer is coming to a close and another new school year is beginning for Palm Bay students on Thursday, August 10th. The City of Palm Bay Police Department would like to remind drivers to be mindful and cautious as students and crossing guards make their way out on city streets in the coming weeks.

The City of Palm Bay Crossing Guards would like to offer these traffic etiquette reminders to those driving or walking to, from and near schools:

DRIVERS: Stop for the stop sign and remain stopped until the Crossing Guard steps back onto the sidewalk. This allows for the safety of the Crossing Guard and pedestrians that the driver may not see.

- Stop behind the crosswalk line to allow for pedestrian crossing.
- Do not inch forward until the Crossing Guard has exited the street.
- Traffic laws requires drivers to remain stopped until the Crossing Guard and children reach a point of safety (the sidewalk).

PEDESTRIANS: Wait on the sidewalk for the Crossing Guard to stop traffic and signal that it is safe to cross in the crosswalk. Remember they are there for your safety.

- Crossing Guards use hand signals and a whistle; one toot is for the drivers to stop and two toots release pedestrians to cross.
- Crossing Guards are assigned to regulate traffic flow as well as cross pedestrians at safe opportunities, so it is important that everyone follow their direction.
- Don't teach your children to cross in the middle of the street. Teach by word and example to cross in the crosswalk with the Crossing Guard.

School Crossing Guards are assigned to 25 intersections throughout the city to ensure the safety of both the pedestrians and drivers navigating the school

zones throughout Palm Bay. Remember to be alert, drive safely around school zones, and give yourself enough time to avoid being in a rush on the roadway.

For additional information about City of Palm Bay Crossing Guards and job opportunities, please go to www.palmbayflorida.org or call (321) 952-3456.