

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 9, 2013

CONTACT: Gary Mack or Wes Bleed
630-357-7552

Back to school in Elmwood Park starting August 13th

Police remind parents, motorists of safety tips, traffic laws

ELMWOOD PARK – Teachers, administrators, staff parents and students of Elmwood Park Community School District #401 are gearing up for the return to classes starting August 13. Police are reminding parents and motorists of the need to follow traffic laws and safety guidelines when driving in school zones.

"This is an important time of year for our families, teachers and all school employees," Elmwood Park Police Chief Frank Fagiano said. "But we want to make sure that amid all of the excitement about heading back to school, we don't lose sight of safety."

Fagiano said that traffic enforcement, crossing guards and the presence of school officials will be increased in all school zones to ensure the safety of children on their way to and from school. "Remember to slow down in marked school zones," Fagiano said. "The speed limit in school zones is 20 miles per hour."

Specifically, Fagiano reminded motorists to be on the lookout for walking students and to adhere to the posted speed zone. In addition, cars may not cross double yellow lines. "There's no standing or parking in yellow zones, and students should exit vehicles curbside only," Fagiano continued.

Elmwood Park Village President Angelo "Skip" Saviano urged parents and motorists to be on the lookout for kids darting across the street or for motorists pulling away from the curb. "It will take some time to get used to driving around our schools again, so we need everyone to use extra caution," Saviano said.

In an effort to help motorists minimize their driving speed, the village will deploy its digital speed monitor at the schools on a rotating basis. The device uses radar to determine the speed of an approaching car and then displays the speed as the vehicle passes. "We want to give motorists one more indication of how fast they are traveling near our schools," Saviano said.

www.elmwoodpark.org