Every fall, over 55 million children across the United States head back to school, 13% walking or biking to school.

Here are several ways drivers can help to keep kids safe:

- Eliminate distractions. Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just 2 seconds doubles your chances of crashing. Children can be quick and unpredictable: crossing the road, emerging between parked cars. NEVER using your cell phone while driving.
- Slow down.
- Come to a complete stop. Research shows that more than 1/3 of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods.
- DO NOT BACK UP.
- Scan the roads and sidewalks. Slow down and allow at least 5 feet of passing distance between your vehicle and children or STOP and yield the right of way.
- Talk to your teen drivers. Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States, and nearly one in four fatal crashes involving teen drivers occur during the after-school hours of 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.