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FDOT Promotes Back to School Safety

Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties

Miami, FL – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is promoting driver safety and awareness as the 2018-2019 school year gets underway.

School began on August 15 in Monroe County and Miami-Dade County Public Schools will be back in session on Monday, August 20. The start of school signals an increase in traffic and a change in traffic patterns with students of all ages walking and biking to school.

FDOT offers the following tips for making the back-to-school commute safer for both drivers and students:

- Reduce your speed and obey all posted school zone speed limits (15 MPH)
- Always stop for the school bus that has stopped to load/unload children
- Be alert and ready to stop. Watch for children, especially where there are no sidewalks
- Give children on bicycles lots of room
- Expect more traffic on the roads and factor this into your daily commute

Being aware of current road conditions and accidents allows drivers to plan ahead, save time and stay safe. Drivers are encouraged to call 511 before they travel or log on to www.fl511.com to get real-time traffic and lane closure information.

FDOT would like to remind drivers that wearing a safety belt is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. Please drive cautiously in school zones.