



MEDIA ADVISORY

Immediate Release
October 1, 2012

FURTHER INFORMATION:
Amanda Day
Aday@daycommunications.com

Get up, Get out, and Get Moving!

Best Foot Forward Celebrates Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 3

One-day international event to encourage families, students and the community to get out of their cars and get moving.

What: On Wednesday, Oct. 3, thousands of students, parents, community leaders, and volunteers across Orange County will celebrate International Walk to School Day. This one-day event is part of the effort to encourage people to get out of their cars and get moving safely to and from school.

Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety is celebrating Walk to School Day by having its volunteers at specific Orange County Public Schools waving signs, cheering students, and reminding drivers it's the law to yield for pedestrians. Media can expect visibility opportunities.

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) is a partner in *Best Foot Forward* where city and county governments, enforcement officials, public agencies, non-profits, businesses and concerned citizens are working together to cut pedestrian deaths and injuries in half over the next five years in Metro Orlando. This year, OCPS introduced two pedestrian safety initiatives for its schools – a monthly program called Walk N Roll and a Sunshine State Standards-compliant K-5 curriculum called WalkSafe to increase pedestrian safety knowledge of elementary school children.

Where: The following schools hope to have *Best Foot Forward* volunteers waving signs as students and parents walk safely to school.

School	Time
Dommerich Elementary School 1900 Choctaw Trail, Maitland	7:50 am – 8: 30 am
Maitland Middle School <i>Connected to Dommerich Elementary School</i>	8:45 am – 9:00 am

- **Activity:** Maitland Mayor Howard Schieferdecker and the two moms who launched the Walk N Roll program at OCPS will be walking with students and parents along Choctaw Trail. If media is interested, please park in the Dommerich parking lot. The kids will be entering from the West side (parking lot).

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Lake Whitney Elementary School

7:45 am – 9:15 am

1351 Windermere Road, Winter Garden

- **Activity:** Lake Whitney Elementary is going big on Walk to School Day. In May, they had over 200 parents and students walking to school for an event and they expect the same on Wednesday. Media can expect announcements by County Commissioner Scott Boyd and Winter Garden City Commissioner Bobby Oszewski regarding pedestrian solutions for the intersection of Roberson and Windermere. Children's Safety Village of Central Florida will be conducting safety training and distributing materials.

Lake Silver Elementary School

7:30 am – 8:30 am

2401 N. Rio Grande Ave., Orlando

- **Activity:** Students and Parents will gather at Albert Park, on Edgewater Drive and walk to school. They are expecting between 50 and 60 students to participate in the walk.

Timber Lakes Elementary

7:45 am – 8:30 am

2149 Crown Hill Boulevard, Orlando

- **Activity:** Students and parents from the Avalon Park area will be wearing their school colors on their walk to school. The class that has the most walkers will win a popcorn party.

Little River Elementary

7:45 am – 8:30 am

100 Caswell Drive, Orlando

- **Activity:** Students and parents will walk to school and be greeted with celebratory gifts and prizes.

Frangus Elementary

7:45 am – 8:30 am

380 Killington Way, Orlando

- **Activity:** Orange County School Board member Vicky Bell will be at Frangus Elementary cheering on students and parents.

Wetherbee Elementary

7:45 am – 8:30 am

701 E. Wetherbee Road, Orlando

- **Activity:** Orange County School Board member Rick Roach will be at Wetherbee Elementary cheering on students and parents.

Clay Springs Elementary

7:45 am – 8:30 am

555 North Wekiwa Springs Road, Apopka

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- **Activity:** Orange County School Board member Christine Moore will be at Clay Springs Elementary cheering on students and parents.

About Best Foot Forward

Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety is a coalition of civic leaders, public safety officials, engineers, educators, transportation planners, advocates and concerned citizens. Initiated by Bike/Walk Central Florida under the leadership of former Orange County Mayor Linda Chapin, spearheaded by Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, the coalition includes Orange County Government, Orange County Public Schools, Orlando Health, Lynx, Winter Park Health Foundation, MetroPlan Orlando, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the City of Orlando, Winter Park, Maitland, Eatonville, Windermere, Winter Garden, and Apopka, as well as the police chiefs throughout Orange County led by Orlando Police Chief Paul Rooney and Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings.

The mission is to cut pedestrian injuries and deaths in half in five years, by improving pedestrian safety and encouraging walking as a safe, fun form of transportation and healthy activity. To learn more, go to www.iyield4peds.org.

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