



JOE LESTER
Sheriff

DATE: Monday, August 11, 2014

SUBJ: **PRESS RELEASE by Sheriff Joe Lester**
“Operation Back to School Safely”

A new school year is about to begin for children in Cleveland County.

Cleveland County sheriff's deputies will kick off “Operation Back to School Safely” next week in the areas of Robin Hill Public School and Lexington Public Schools. Both schools start Thursday.

The program focuses on school traffic safety.

Deputies will patrol school zones throughout the day. Officers will strictly enforce the law. Motorists caught speeding or driving recklessly will be stopped and cited.

Next week, deputies will expand the traffic program to school zones near Little Axe Public Schools and Noble Public Schools. Students return to Little Axe Public Schools on Aug. 20. Schools begins at Noble Public Schools Aug. 21.

Deputies encourage everyone to slow down in and around school zones and obey all traffic laws. Students will be walking or driving to school.

Sheriff Joe Lester said drivers should be alert for children around schools, especially pedestrians crossing roads in school zones.

“When you drive up to a school zone, please be careful as children walk to class and leave school each day,” Lester said. “Deputies will patrol each of these school zones to remind the public that school is back in session and watch out for kids.”

Any questions regarding this press release and/or information can be addressed to Meghan McCormick, Cleveland County Sheriff's Office, community liaison/public information officer. McCormick can be reached at (405) 701-8847.