

Project Name: Seat Belt Parent Letters

Origination Agency: Kandiyohi County Traffic Education & Safety Team

Timeline: Low time/low cost

- 1) Have someone monitor vehicles arriving and/or leaving the school on a certain date
- 2) Have the sheriff run the plates of the unbelted teens
- 3) Send a letter to registered owner on Sheriff's Office letterhead stating that the law enforcement wants to keep all kids safe and we know parents and guardians do to, so please talk with the driver of your registered vehicle on (date) and let them know the importance of wearing a seat belt. Send seat belt information in the letter as well. If possible, have it signed by the Sheriff – or the school resource officer.

Reason for Project: Teens arriving to or leaving school unbelted. This could also be used for cell phone use.

Who was on the team? Law enforcement and coalition volunteers

Lessons Learned: Sometimes a vehicle has been sold recently and the registered owner isn't the parent or guardian of the child. However, most of the time this is a family vehicle. Write the letter in a supportive and non-confrontational way.

How did you incorporate the 5 E's? Law enforcement is the only agency allowed to run the license plates to make sure you have your sheriff on board.

Who to contact: Kandiyohi County Traffic Education & Safety Team; Stephanie Felt, Coordinator; 320-214-6700 X 3821; stephaniefelt@hotmail.com

Note: A copy of the letter sent out is available from Stephanie Felt, KCTEST Coordinator