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SAFETY ALERT

No. 10-02

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PRECAUTIONS
FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

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The recent tragedy involving a local non-LAUSD student athlete, who was struck and killed by a motor vehicle, provides a sobering reminder that pedestrian safety precautions must be constantly addressed with our students. The incident involved a student who was running after school with his cross-country team when he was hit by a car within an intersection.

The following safety tips are pertinent not only to student athletes, but to all pedestrians in general:

- **Don't assume you have the right of way when crossing the street. Remain vigilant.**
- Always use the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you must enter in the roadway, always travel facing traffic.
- Dress to be seen. Wearing bright/light colored clothing helps drivers see you. Reflective clothing is the best.
- Cross streets only at marked crosswalks or intersections.
- If crossing a multiple lane roadway, pedestrians should visually clear each lane as they proceed.
- If a car is parked where you are trying to cross, look for a driver who may pull out and not see you as he is looking for traffic.
- Remember telephone poles, utility boxes and parked vehicles block on-coming drivers' ability to see you.
- Look LEFT - RIGHT - LEFT prior to entering the street.
- Give drivers ample time to stop prior to entering the crosswalk.
- Crossing at locations that have traffic signals helps motorist see you.
- Turn off your headphones while crossing the street, so you can hear approaching traffic.
- Traffic law gives pedestrians the right of way in marked and unmarked crosswalks, but it is still important to look both ways before stepping into the street. Motorists may be focused on cross traffic, making a turn or getting through the intersection before the light changes, and not see the pedestrian about to cross the street.

If you have questions, contact the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) at 213-241-3199.

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