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**NEWS RELEASE**

**NOVEMBER 20, 2008**

FOR RELEASE: Immediately

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***Mead High School Receives \$1,000 by Participating in  
Come Home Safe Program***

*School supported program by conducting  
two unannounced safety belt checks*

**Omaha, Neb.** – Mead High School has received \$1,000 by participating in the Come Home Safe program, sponsored by the National Safety Council and the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety. Mead High School received the check during a formal presentation at the school Nov. 20.

Mead High School was one of nearly 40 schools eligible for a cash prize. The drawing was a way of thanking schools for participating in the program and encouraging safety belt use amongst students.

To be qualified for the drawing, schools had to conduct two unannounced safety belt checks at least 30 days apart. During Mead High School's first unannounced safety belt check, conducted Sept. 18, 72 percent of students stopped were buckled up. Results improved 12 percent at the second unannounced check Oct. 23, when 82 percent of students checked were wearing safety belts.

“We are thrilled a majority of students at Mead High School are buckling up, and we’re happy to reward them for their safety,” said Kay Farrell, president/CEO of National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter. “Teenagers represent only 7 percent of licensed drivers, yet they account for 24 percent of crashes and so very many of them are seriously injured or die in these crashes. We hope the students at Mead High School not wearing their safety belts start buckling up before it’s too late.”

Mead High School was the only \$1,000 winner. Burwell High School (Burwell, Neb.) and Maywood High School (Maywood, Neb.) both received \$500.

About the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter

Founded in 1924, the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter, is a private non-profit, community based organization that promotes safety and health by providing programs, resource services and education to individuals and organizations to prevent both the personal and economic loss associated with injuries, accidents and health hazards wherever they exist. Under the leadership of the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter, the greater Omaha metro area was recently designated a safe community by the United Nation’s World Health Organization (WHO). For more information, visit [www.safenebraska.org](http://www.safenebraska.org).