

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Orangeburg County School District Partners with Law Enforcement to Promote Safe and Celebratory Prom Season**

**ORANGEBURG, S.C.** – In a collaborative effort to ensure a safe and celebratory prom season, the Orangeburg County School District (OCSD) has partnered with the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Department and the South Carolina Highway Patrol to share critical safety information with students and parents.

With prom season being a highly anticipated event for students, OCSD recognizes the importance of prioritizing student safety while maintaining the excitement of the occasion. The partnership aims to educate students and their families on responsible decision-making and safety measures, including:

- **Safe Driving Practices:** The South Carolina Highway Patrol provided information on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving, emphasizing the importance of seatbelt usage and responsible transportation options.
- **Substance Awareness:** The Orangeburg County Sheriff's Department highlighted the risks associated with underage drinking, drug use, and the legal consequences of reckless behavior.
- **Personal Safety:** School officials and law enforcement encouraged students to stay in groups, communicate with trusted adults, and make responsible choices throughout prom night.

Major Williams from the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office and Lance Corporal Glover from the South Carolina Highway Patrol participated in a video alongside Dr. Foster to emphasize these key safety messages.

To further ensure students are prepared, several OCSD schools have hosted informational assemblies to share safety guidance. For example, Edisto High School's prom committee organized a drinking and driving awareness event, while other schools have conducted similar initiatives to reinforce the importance of safe decision-making during prom season.

"As an educational institution, our responsibility extends beyond the classroom. We want to ensure that our students can enjoy this special occasion safely," said Dr. Shawn D. Foster, superintendent of Orangeburg County School District. "This partnership with law enforcement reinforces our commitment to student well-being. We want them to have fun, but we want them to be safe as well, he continued."

To watch the full safety message featuring Major Williams, Lance Corporal Glover, and Dr. Foster, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMVFVJ7gI0>

### **Orangeburg County School District**

The mission of Orangeburg County School District, the catalyst of innovation and excellence, is to ensure all students discover and develop their person, purpose, and platform through high-quality educational experiences distinguished by a culture of collaboration, equity, and inclusion; a creative learning environment with inspiring opportunities; a commitment to nurture the academic, physical, social and emotional well-being of all. Visit us online at [ocsdsc.org](http://ocsdsc.org).

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