

May 14, 2009

**CHARLES H. CASTLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES  
STUDENTS' CLEAN COMMUTE WEEK MAY 18-22**

For additional information, contact:  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

School: Charles H. Castle Elementary School  
What: Students' Clean Commute Week May 18-22  
Where: 6001 Edgemont Drive, Bakersfield

Charles H. Castle Elementary School students will celebrate *Students' Clean Commute Week* May 18-22 at their school as part of the Safe Routes to Schools movement. Partnering organizations include Kern Commuter Connection and Blue Sky Partners.

Students are asked to clean up their commute by walking, biking, carpooling or taking the bus or getting to school in an environmentally "clean" way. In return, students who participate will be recognized for their clean efforts throughout the week.

Students will turn in tickets each morning to their valet or designated adult at the school's drop-off site. On Monday, students will receive a gift for participating. Tuesday is "Valet Appreciation Day," an opportunity for students to say thank you to their peers for helping them out of the family car each morning. Every day a ticket is turned in, the chances improve for a student to win a grand prize at the end of the week. The teacher with the highest number of participants will get a pizza party on Friday.

This week long event serves as a pilot program for upcoming events surrounding Back to School activities in the fall.

Safe Routes to Schools is designed to increase the number of children walking and biking to school. The program combines health, fitness, traffic relief, environmental awareness and safety under one program. It is an opportunity for Kern COG and its partners to work closely with area schools to create a healthy lifestyle for children and a safer and cleaner environment for everyone.

For additional information regarding *Students' Clean Commute Week*, visit [www.commutekern.org](http://www.commutekern.org) and [www.bikebakersfield.org](http://www.bikebakersfield.org).

