



## Weston High School Safe Driving Pledge

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety reports that distracted driving alone is the cause of over 30,000 fatalities or injuries each year nation-wide. Consider the following:

- Distracted driving contributes to up to 8,000 crashes every single day;
- More than 850,000 people have died in car crashes over the past 25 years in the U.S., with 36,560 lives lost in 2018 alone;
- Drivers spend more than half their time behind the wheel engaged in distracted behavior;
- Using a mobile phone while driving quadruples the risk of crashing;
- Eating, smoking, adjusting music, or rubbernecking while driving can be just as dangerous as texting, emailing, or talking on the phone;
- Passengers are one of the most frequently reported causes of distraction, with young children being four times more distracting than adults, and infants being eight times more distracting; and
- Teenage drivers are four times more likely to be involved in an accident as the result of distracted driving than their adult counterparts.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injury and death among teenagers nationally, according to the CDC. As a result of this alarming statistic, Connecticut has responded with a number of laws related to teen driving that have been designed to minimize and restrict at-risk driving behaviors. We at Weston High School not only fully support our students' strict adherence to these laws and regulations, but we are also requiring - in the spirit of safe, responsible driving - that our student drivers pledge to stop distracted driving. Therefore, our expectation is that each student driver seeking to park on campus will sign the following pledge:

***Distracted driving is dangerous and life-threatening to me, my passengers, and other drivers. I pledge to keep my attention on the road, and I agree that will not text, email, surf the web, or engage in any other distracted behaviors while driving. I will follow all Connecticut driving laws on and off campus, and I will not transport peers until I have reached appropriate age as defined by law. I understand that if I do not follow these expectations, the WHS administration will revoke my parking privilege for a determined period of time, up to and including the remainder of the school year.***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_