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CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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The Caldwell Police Department is urging the community to take extra precautions after responding to two separate incidents in the past two days involving students struck by vehicles while walking to school.

Both students suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Each incident highlights the critical importance of attentiveness and safety for drivers, students, and parents. Yesterday's incident happened near Caldwell High School. The driver involved in the first incident is facing a reckless driving charge. Today's incident occurred at Willow St. and S. Montana Ave. The driver in today's incident has been cited for inattentive and careless driving. Both students were in crosswalks, but not in an area that had flashing school zone safety lights. City Installs Flashing Lights to Improve School Safety | City of Caldwell, Idaho

CPD will be increasing patrols around schools and initiating a social media campaign to educate the public about this issue.

Caldwell Police ask parents to speak with their children about safe walking habits, including:

- Using designated crosswalks.
- Making eye contact with drivers before crossing.
- Staying alert, avoiding phones and earbuds near roadways.
- Wearing bright or reflective clothing during early morning hours.

Drivers are urged to:

- Slow down in school zones and residential areas.
- Stay alert for students who may enter the roadway unexpectedly.
- Avoid distractions and keep attention on the road.
- Follow all traffic laws related to crosswalks and student pedestrians.

"Student safety is a shared responsibility. Even one injured child is one too many, and we are hoping both students have a quick recovery. We ask everyone in our community to remain vigilant and do their part to keep our students safe. We urge drivers to be especially cautious during school commute hours and remain alert for young pedestrians. We also encourage parents to take time to educate their children about pedestrian safety and the importance of making sure drivers see them before they cross," said Rex Ingram, Caldwell Chief of Police.