



NEWS RELEASE

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PR 01510-No Phone Zone Pledge

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Keeping Our Roads Safe at Prom Time:
STUDENTS SEEK BOROUGH COUNCIL
SUPPORT FOR 'NO PHONE ZONE PLEDGE'

GLASSBORO – Glassboro school students stood before Mayor and Council at the start of the Tuesday, May 25 Council meeting to ask for their help. The young people have begun a campaign in the community to get adults to sign the Oprah Winfrey No Phone Zone Pledge, which will kick into high gear here next week—prom week for Glassboro High School students.

“We are in the process of collecting signatures for safe driving in the Glassboro community, beginning with our teachers and students who drive, and are asking if you will sign the pledge as well,” said eighth grade student Olivia Romalino, 14, to the elected officials.

“We support the students’ efforts to educate the governing body and the entire community about this pledge, which promotes safer driving practices and makes the roads safer for everyone,” said Mayor Leo J. McCabe, who initiated a resolution in support of the pledge drive.

“It takes a lot of initiative for young people to get involved in their community, and for them to take on an issue with such important ramifications is particularly impressive. I support their effort and congratulate them for bringing this issue to the attention of Council,” added Councilman Ed Malandro before signing the pledge.

Joining Olivia for the presentation was Glassboro High School senior Robyn Sauer, who initiated the effort with classmate Wa'Feesa Tucker. The two are enrolled in the "Little Bulldogs" program, an education prep course that incorporates classroom experience in schools across the district. According to Sauer, the two were talking to a third grade class about dangers on the road--especially at prom time--and with the help of the younger students the idea for the pledge drive was born.

"I had fun getting my mom and dad to sign," said third grader Ian House, 9, to Mayor and Council. "The project is awesome and fun. It makes people safe. I have a deal with my mom and dad that if I catch them texting and driving they owe me money!" Ian and classmate Kahlin Wright attended the Council meeting and are members of the third grade class spearheading the effort at their school.

Third grade teacher Donna Romalino indicated that the No Phone Zone Pledge form has been posted on the school district web site at www.glassboroschools.us (under News and Events). Members of the community are invited to sign and return it to her at the Dorothy L. Bullock School. She added that students and teachers in each of the district's five schools will be asking drivers for their pledges through Friday, June 11.

"We really are fortunate to have such a supportive community that comes together in the best interest of our students," Romalino told Mayor and Council. "We thank you for your support."



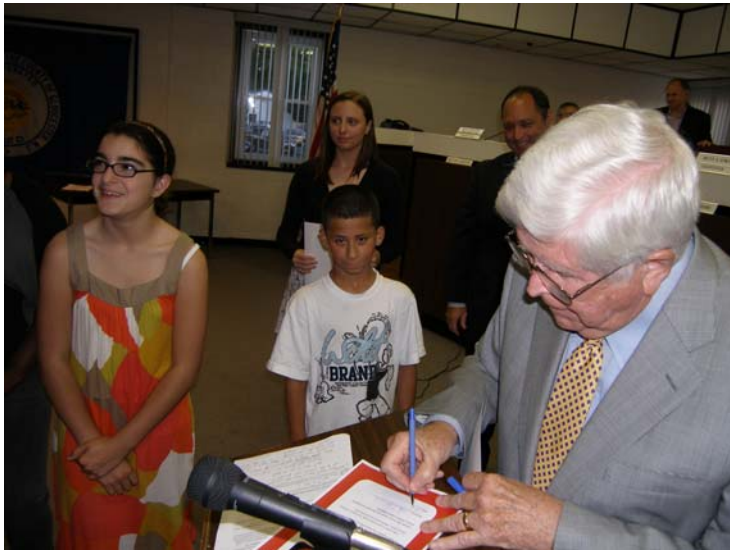
Caption for "No Phone Zone 01.jpg":

Glassboro students and teachers asked for support from Mayor and Council for the Oprah Winfrey No Phone Zone pledge drive during the Tuesday, May 25 Council meeting. Mayor and Council passed a resolution in support of the effort, which runs through June 11 and coincides with prom season in Glassboro. Shown in the photo are (l-r, rear), Council President Tony Fiola, Councilman Hector Cabezas, third grade teacher Donna Romalino, Councilman George Cossabone, Glassboro High School teacher Nancy Brown, GHS senior Robyn Sauer, Mayor Leo J. McCabe, Councilman Ed Malandro and Councilman Joe D'Alessandro. In front are (l-r) eighth grade student Olivia Romalino, second grade teacher Venetia Miner, eighth grade student Jessica Miner, fifth grade student Sophia Romalino and third grade students Ian House and Kahlin Wright.



Caption for “No Phone Zone 02.jpg”:

Glassboro Councilman Ed Malandro signs the No Phone Zone Pledge during the May 25 Council meeting, as eighth grade student Jessica Miner, fifth grader Sophia Romalino and third grader Ian House look on.



Caption for “No Phone Zone 03.jpg”:

Glassboro Mayor Leo J. McCabe, shown signing the No Phone Zone Pledge, introduced a resolution supporting the Glassboro School students’ effort to promote driver safety, especially during prom season.



Caption for “No Phone Zone 04.jpg”:

Students and their teachers from four of Glassboro’s Schools ask for Glassboro Mayor and Council’s support of Oprah Winfrey’s No Phone Zone Pledge. The pledge drive will run through Friday, June 11, coinciding with prom season in Glassboro.