YOUTH OF VIRGINIA SPEAK OUT ABOUT TRAFFIC SAFETY

Spring Project 2026 | Project GPS: Get Places Safely

CELEBRATING SAFELY

PROM & GRADUATION IDEAS

PROJECT GPS
Get Places Safely

A collection of engaging, ready-to-use activities designed to help schools promote safe decision-making and responsible behaviors during prom, school dances, and graduation celebrations.

YOVASO
YOUTH OF VIRGINIA SPEAK OUT ABOUT TRAFFIC SAFETY

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PROM & SCHOOL DANCE IDEAS

The following examples are real events host by schools during previous projects

YOVASO Incentive Items

Place YOVASO incentive items in cups, bags, or giveaway bundles to remind students that driving and riding safely should be their first priority!

Why this works: Fun, useful items keep the safety message in students' hands (and on their minds) long after the event ends.

Planning tip: Add a short tag or sticker with a simple message like "Safe Choices Start With You" to reinforce the reminder.

Petals & Prom Promises

Partner with a local florist to include small traffic safety tip cards or stickers with prom corsages and boutonnieres, reminding students to plan ahead and make safe choices on prom night.

Why this works: Students receive their florals right before the event, making it a timely opportunity to reinforce safe driving and passenger behaviors.

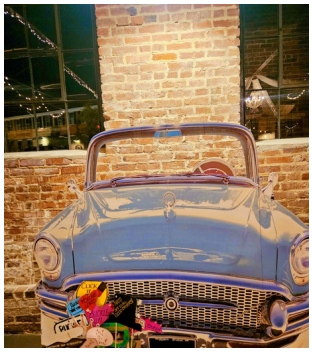
Planning tip: Contact local florists a few weeks before prom and provide small, easy-to-attach cards or stickers they can add to floral packaging or ribbons.

Make a Grand Entrance

Display a banner or sign in a high visibility area to remind drivers and passengers to be safe and responsible traveling to and from prom.

Why this works: A clear, visible reminder as students enter and leave reinforces smart choices when it matters most.

Planning tip: Keep the message bold and simple (ex: "Drive Safe. Arrive Safe.") and place it where everyone will see it.



Strike a Pose for Safe Roads

Create a traffic safety photo booth or provide props that encourage traffic safety! Provide props like mock steering wheels, stop signs, and speech bubbles with safety slogans.

Why this works: Photos make safety messages fun and memorable, and students often share them, spreading the reminder.

Planning tip: Add a simple backdrop or tag like "Safe Choices Start With You" to reinforce the message.

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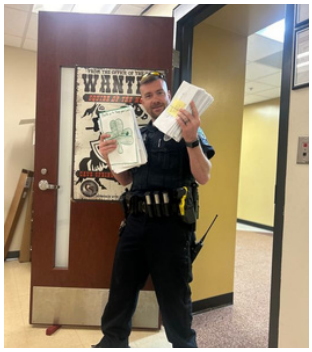
GRADUATION & PROMOTION CEREMONIES

The following examples are real events host by schools during previous projects



Letters to Graduates

Write letters to 8th or 12th grade graduates wishing them success in their next chapter while encouraging them to practice safe driving, passenger, and pedestrian habits.

Why this works: Personal messages feel meaningful, making students more likely to remember the safety reminder during an exciting and busy time.

Planning tip: Include a short, positive message tied to the theme, such as "*Your Future Is Bright—Get Places Safely*."

Graduation Safety Send-Off

Have YOVASO members stand outside graduation to hand out traffic safety tip cards and wish graduates and families a safe summer.

Why this works: It connects safety to a major milestone, reminding students to make responsible choices as they celebrate and head into summer.

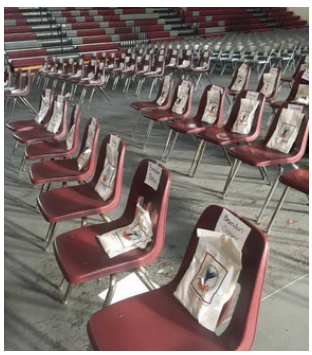
Planning tip: Keep the message short and positive, like "*Celebrate Smart. Get Places Safely This Summer*," and have members wear YOVASO shirts to stay visible and unified.

Graduate Safety Pledge

Host a Graduate Day activity where students sign a YOVASO pledge banner committing to safe driving and riding habits. As they participate, offer fun items like popsicles, water bottles, sunglasses, keychains, or small snack bags.

Why this works: Signing the pledge makes the commitment feel personal, and the fun atmosphere connects celebration with responsible decision-making.

Planning tip: Set up the banner in a high-traffic area and use a positive slogan like "My Future Is Worth the Safe Choice" to keep the message encouraging and memorable.



YOVASO Incentive Item Chair Drops

Place YOVASO incentive item bags on students' chairs before graduation or promotion ceremonies so they receive them as they sit down.

Why this works: The surprise factor grabs attention right away, and the useful items keep the traffic safety message visible even after the event ends.

Planning tip: Attach a short tag like "Safe Choices Start With You" or "Buckle Up Every Ride" to reinforce the reminder in a simple, positive way.

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EVEN MORE THEMED IDEAS!

Testing & Traffic Safety

Create banners, posters, or morning announcements with short traffic safety messages before end-of-year testing. Display them in hallways, entrances, or during announcements to remind students to plan safe rides, stay alert, and make responsible choices.

Examples:

Exam Week Is Important & So Is Your Safety. Plan Ahead, Avoid Distractions, and Arrive Ready to Succeed.
Rest Well, Eat Well, Study Hard, and Remember: Safe Rides Are Part of Your Success.
You've Got the Knowledge. Now Use It to Make Smart Choices! Arrive Alert, Drive Safely, Get Places Safely.

Egg-citing Safety Hunt

Host an Easter Egg–style scavenger hunt where each egg contains a traffic safety question. Students "hunt" for the messages and earn YOVASO incentive items for returning the egg and having a correct response.

Question: True or False: Driving tired is as dangerous as driving drunk.
Answer/Tip: True! Rest well before you drive.
Question: What's the safest way to cross a parking lot?
Answer/Tip: Walk slowly, be attentive, use crosswalks when available, and watch for moving cars.
True or False: Wearing your seatbelt isn't necessary in the back seat.
Answer/Tip: False! Everyone in the car should buckle up, no matter where you are seated. It's a law!

Spring Break License Plate Challenge

In the week leading up to Spring Break, challenge students to decode license plates with hidden traffic safety messages. Provide decoding sheets where students record their responses and turn in at the end of the week for a YOVASO incentive item. It's a fun, quick activity to get teens thinking about safe travel before they head out for break.

Examples:

BKLUP → Buckle Up
SEATBLT → Seatbelt
ARRVSAF → Arrive Safely
STOPTXT → Stop Texting
NODRNK → Don't Drink & Drive
WTCHRD → Watch the Road

PROJECT REMINDER:

Don't forget to keep track of all the activities your school completes during the project period! Whether participating or competing, please complete the quick Final Report to share your activities. Every entry helps us track impact and continue providing free resources for students.