

**From:** [Missouri Department of Transportation](#)  
**To:** [Ashley N. Metelski](#)  
**Subject:** Project Prom/Graduation Grant Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026 3:17:02 PM

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Submitted on Tue, 02/17/2026 - 15:16

Submitted by: Visitor

Submitted values are:

**School Information**

Notre Dame Regional High School  
265 Notre Dame Drvie  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri. 63701  
5733356772

**Who is hosting the event?**

High School

**Date of event**

2026-05-02

**Please specify which type of event your school is having**

Project Prom

**Please confirm that a lock-in event is occurring after your Graduation/Prom.**

Yes

**Location of event**

West Park Bowling Lanes, Cape Girardeau MO

**Estimated number of students at event**

200

**Does your school have the required roadway safety activity/presentation planned yet?**

In Progress

**Would you be interested in learning about the free roadway safety programs that MoDOT has to offer?**

Yes

**What activities will occur at the event?**

Project Prom Night Reinforcement

On the evening of Project Prom, students will receive:

\*Public announcements reinforcing safe driving and substance-free decision-making

\*Goodie bags containing safe driving literature and educational materials

\*Positive reinforcement celebrating their commitment to a safe and sober evening

**Clearly state your goal and action plan that will address drivers' safety issues in your**

## **school**

### **Drug & Alcohol-Free Project Prom Safety Initiative**

Notre Dame Regional High School is committed to providing students with a safe, substance-free environment during prom season through a comprehensive prevention initiative aligned with our Traction program. This initiative combines data collection, education, experiential learning, and reinforcement messaging to encourage responsible decision-making and safe driving behaviors.

#### **Measurable Safety Efforts**

As part of our proactive approach, we conducted an initial seat belt usage check, which revealed a strong 93% compliance rate among our student drivers. While encouraging, our goal is to increase awareness and move closer to 100% compliance before prom season.

To reinforce this effort:

On March 12, representatives from the Missouri State Highway Patrol will visit during lunch periods with the Seat Belt Convincer, an interactive safety simulator that demonstrates the force of a low-speed crash and reinforces the life-saving importance of seat belt use.

On March 21, during our home track meet (10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.), the Missouri State Highway Patrol will also bring a Roll Over Simulator, providing students and community members with a firsthand understanding of how seat belts protect passengers during a rollover crash.

A final seat belt compliance check will be conducted on March 24 to measure growth and determine the impact of our educational efforts.

#### **School-Wide Prevention Education**

On April 8, nationally recognized speaker Cara Filler will address our entire student body. Her powerful presentation focuses on impaired driving, distracted driving, and the lifelong consequences of poor choices. This assembly serves as a cornerstone of our prevention programming by connecting real-life stories with responsible decision-making.

During the week of April 27 – May 1, we will participate in the Safe and Sober campaign leading up to prom. Activities will include daily awareness messaging, peer-led discussions, and visible reminders throughout campus reinforcing the importance of remaining drug- and alcohol-free.

These layered efforts—data collection, experiential simulations, professional speaker engagement, peer advocacy, and event-night reinforcement—work together to create a culture of safety rather than a single-event message.

#### **Intended Outcomes**

Through this comprehensive initiative, we aim to:

Increase seat belt compliance to near 100%

Reduce the likelihood of impaired or distracted driving during prom season

Strengthen student awareness of the consequences of alcohol and drug use

Encourage lifelong habits of responsible decision-making

Grant funding will directly support educational materials, speaker engagement, and safe-event resources that ensure our students celebrate responsibly while protecting themselves and others.

Our goal is not only a safe prom night, but a safer generation of drivers.

## **Your Contact Information**

Angela Schaefer

Notre Dame High School

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**I agree to send photos/videos of youth engaging in roadway safety programming following the event.\***

Yes