

**Narrator:**

Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones recently joined driver safety experts, parents and students at McClatchy High School in Sacramento to urge teen drivers to stay safe behind the wheel.

The news conference was part of a series of events happening at the school to raise awareness of teen driver safety issues.

**Commissioner Jones:**

The first of those is that unfortunately there are six thousand teen deaths a year, auto-related teen deaths a year. That's a terribly high figure and one that means a lot of tragedy and a lot of loss across the United States because of teens who get in auto accidents.

**Narrator:**

The Commissioner pointed out that the summer months between Memorial Day and Labor Day when kids are out of school, is one of the deadliest time periods for teen drivers, who have the highest percentage of auto crashes of any drivers.

**Commissioner Jones:**

Teens are engaging in more risky behavior are not aware of risks associated with driving as other people.

**Narrator:**

Commissioner Jones called on parents, teachers and others to take the time to educate kids about becoming safe drivers and learning ways to avoid a crash.

**Commissioner Jones:**

So some of the things you need to pay attention to as you're driving, drive at the speed limit. Adjust your speed for conditions. Slow down for night driving. Slow down for rain, snow, ice or fog. Look out for other drivers. Drive defensively. Be always aware of cyclists, pedestrians, car doors opening. Always wear your seatbelt, that's critically important.

**Narrator:**

And remember that all drivers in California, including teens must be insured.