



Orville H. Platt High School

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Driving Simulator Project Announcement

The Injury Prevention Center at Connecticut Children's Medical Center has loaned three driving simulators to our school for use by sophomores and juniors who sign up. The simulators will be located in the Library. They consist of three wide-screen monitors, a steering wheel, and brake and gas pedals. Students will then be able to experience a unique virtual driving environment that can be set to simulate nighttime driving, thunderstorms, and even snow.

Sign-up for the driving simulator project will occur on September 10th during third period. Only half of the students who sign up will be selected to use the simulators. Connecticut Children's has asked us to pilot this technology in an effort to find out whether it makes a difference in reducing the risk of a motor vehicle crash for new drivers. As you may already know, motor vehicle crashes are the number threat to the lives of teens with approximately 4,000 teen deaths each year in the United States.

Connecticut Children's will be providing an incentive to all students who sign up. For those who sign up and are not selected, they will receive a \$5 gift card to Dunkin Donuts. Students who are selected to use the simulators will be able to earn up to \$15 in gift cards by completing the 12 simulator lessons.

Pictured: Kevin Borrup, project director at CT Children's, stands with Commissioner Robert Ward of the DMV to watch a new driver use the simulator at the hospital.