[Date]

Dear Parents/Families/Legal Guardians,

E-bikes and e-scooters offer young people a practical way to get to school, activities, and work, but many students are not “ride ready”. Before you buy or if you already bought an electric mobility device for your student, be informed about new laws, your liability, and how to train your young rider to be “ride ready”.

1. Before You Buy: Know the Device

- A legal California E-bike has operable pedals and meets the state e-bike definition.
    - Class 1 and 2 provide motor assistance up to 20 mph.
    - Class 3 provides pedal assist up to 28 mph, requires a speedometer, and may only be operated by riders age 16 or older.
- Do not rely on marketing alone.
    - Some high-powered electric motorcycles and off-highway eMotos are sold in bike-like forms but are not legal e-bikes for street or bike-lane use.
- E-scooters: a valid driver's license or instruction permit is required. E-scooters may not be ridden on sidewalks and may not exceed 15 mph.
- Check battery and charging safety.
    - California strengthened testing and labeling requirements for e-bikes, powered mobility devices, batteries and charging systems beginning in 2026.
    - Use the manufacturer-approved battery and charger and do not use speed-unlock kits or unapproved replacement batteries.

2. Before They Ride

- Make a family riding agreement: helmet every trip, one rider unless the device is built for a passenger, no phone in hand while riding, obey signals and stop signs, and ride with traffic.
- Walk bikes and scooters on campus. Follow your school or district rules if devices may be brought to school, parked, or charged.
- Practice the route together. Identify bike lanes, busy intersections, driveways, dark stretches and places where the rider should slow down or dismount.

3. A Shared Responsibility

Parents make the purchase and set expectations. Young riders make choices every trip. Drivers also have a responsibility to slow down, look for riders, and give safe passing space. The goal is not to take away independence. It is to be able to count on our youth and our community to safely share the roadways, bike lanes, and pathways.

California Micromobility Safety Guide

Topic	Guidance
 **Know the device**	A legal California e-bike has operable pedals and meets the state e-bike definition. Class 1 and Class 2 provide motor assistance up to 20 mph. Class 3 provides pedal assist up to 28 mph, requires a speedometer, and may only be operated by riders age 16 or older. ⚠ Do not rely on marketing alone. Some high-powered electric motorcycles and off-highway eMotos are sold in bike-like forms but are not legal e-bikes for street or bike-lane use.
 **E-scooter rules**	A valid driver's license or instruction permit is required. E-scooters may not be ridden on sidewalks and may not exceed 15 mph.
 **Battery and charging safety**	California strengthened testing and labeling requirements for e-bikes, powered mobility devices, batteries, and charging systems beginning in 2026.
 **Use approved equipment**	Use the manufacturer-approved battery and charger and do not use speed-unlock kits or unapproved replacement batteries.