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**PRESS RELEASE**

On Wednesday, November 5, Physics and Calculus students at the Netherlands Reformed Christian School in Rock Valley, IA were able to see how various mathematical formulas are used to investigate motor vehicle accidents. Officers showed the students how they can determine a vehicle's speed by its skid marks.

The demonstration was part of a joint School Resource Officer (SRO) program of the sheriff's office by SRO, Deputy Waylon Pollema and the Rock Valley Police Department's SRO, Mitch Miller.

Iowa State Patrol Officers Ian Willis and Nick Erdmann explained how various formulas are used to determine the speed of a vehicle using its skid marks. They told the students that these formulas are frequently used to investigate serious personal injury and fatality accidents. Troopers Willis and Erdmann are trained as technical accident investigators.

After the classroom portion, students went outside and performed practical exercises on how to use the formulas. The students were taught to calculate the speed of the car from its skid marks. They were also able to accurately determine the minimum speed that the vehicle leaving the skid mark was traveling.

