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State Department of Education Transportation Department Raises Awareness on Epilepsy with "Purple Day" Campaign

(BOISE) – The State Department of Education's Student Transportation department has partnered with international epilepsy awareness campaign, "Purple Day," to bring schools and districts free resources and trainings on how to best support student riders with epilepsy and brain trauma.

Each year on March 26, people from around the world wear purple and spread the word about epilepsy. Founded in 2008 by then nine-year-old Cassidy Megan and in partnership with the Anita Kaufmann Foundation and Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes, Purple Day has reached communities worldwide with its message.

This year, the SDE joined the campaign to bring direct support to the epilepsy community and Idaho schools with a kit that provides training and resources for administrators, educators and transportation professionals.

The kit is available free of charge for all Idaho districts and local education agencies and includes seizure first aid posters, flyers, bookmarks and seizure first aid scroll pens for bus drivers, safe for quick reference on the school bus.

Camas County School District in Fairfield is one of the Idaho districts that will put the kit to use. On April 5, the district hosted a training for their transportation staff in collaboration with SDE Transportation Director Ali Stolzman.

"Camas County was able to tailor the resources we provide so that the training fit the unique needs of their student population," said Stolzman. "It's exciting to see these resources in action, and I hope that other Idaho districts will reach out to take advantage of this valuable training opportunity."

<u>Click here</u> to download the SDE's Purple Day PSA video. If your school or district's transportation program is interested in a Student Transportation Epilepsy Education Kit, please email requests to <u>astolzman@sde.idaho.gov</u>.

Attached: Photos from Camas County School District's Purple Day training event