

# Child averts being taken by stranger

By Kathryn Reed



Law enforcement has beefed-up its presence at Lake Tahoe Unified schools after a stranger tried to lure a 6-year-old from the Environmental Magnet School in Meyers on Tuesday.

The mother of the child did not report the incident to authorities until Wednesday.

El Dorado County sheriff's officials distributed a flyer that all kids were to take home on Thursday.

"This little girl did great for her age," sheriff's Sgt. Matt Underhill said.

When the woman approached her, saying her mom said to go with her, the child said no, that she was waiting for her 8-year-old brother. Her brother walked up about that time and the woman left.

Underhill said the woman drove off in a small green car headed toward San Bernardino Street.

The suspect is described as white, with black curly bushy hair, blue eyes, pierced ears, approximately 5-foot-5, with a medium build. She was wearing a white tank top, brown shorts and white tennis shoes.

"We encourage parents to report things as soon as possible because if they think something is wrong, there probably is."

It allows us to act sooner," Lt. Les Lovell said. "If we don't get the information quickly, it handcuffs us."

The school district is advising students not to walk alone or to leave campus with a stranger.

For many, this brings back the horror of Jacycee Lee Dugard being plucked from a bus stop in June 1991 as she waited to go to the Meyers elementary school. Dugard was found alive in August in Antioch. Her suspected abductors are behind bars in Placerville.

Anyone with information pertaining to this week's incident should call the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department at (530) 573.3002 or (530) 573.3300.