



1. Rationale

Municipalities are responsible under in the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) for school crossing guards, for their employment and to enforce the HTA. Municipalities are not required to provide school crossing guards nor the funds to schools for school safety patrols in lieu of crossing guards. Other community organizations such as the police services and Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) may provide training, incentives for patrollers, equipment and funds. In the absence of or to augment the school crossing guard, an elementary school principal may have a school safety patrol program.

2. Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Simcoe County District School Board to promote the safety of our students on school buses and when crossing roadways by using school crossing guards where allocated by the municipality. School safety patrols may be used where no municipal school crossing guards exist. School expenditure for a school safety patrol program must be within the allocated board budget and/or that supplied by community supports.

3. Definitions

- 3.1. Highway is defined in the HTA Section 1.(1) as including a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles.
- 3.2. School Crossing Guard is a person sixteen years of age or older who is directing the movement of persons across a highway and who is employed by the municipality or a corporation under contract with a municipality, HTA Section 176.
- 3.3. School Safety Patrol is an elementary student volunteer that assists with student safety on school buses or at roadway crossings.

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4. Guidelines

- 4.1 School safety patrols are elementary school students in grades 6-8.
- 4.2 School safety patrols must be trained in cooperation with the police services, where this training is available.
- 4.3 School safety patrols do not replace the duties of a school crossing guard such as the control of traffic flow by stopping vehicles.
- 4.4 Student participation in a school safety patrols program will be supported annually by written parental permission.

5. Administrative Procedures

The Director of Education is authorized to provide the administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

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