**Role of the BFA School Safety Patrol**

BFA School Safety Patrol members are school-sponsored student volunteers from middle school.

Patrollers direct children, not traffic during morning and afternoon carpool by providing assistance into and out of their vehicles. As school-age leaders in traffic safety, patrol members teach other students about traffic safety on a peer-to-peer basis. They also serve as models for younger children, who look up to them.

School Safety Patrol members:

* Complete training in traffic safety.
* Protect students from hazards of crossing roads and carpool while on school property during AM and PM drop off and pick up.
* Teach fellow students about traffic safety.
* Serve in other leadership roles under the direction of school officials.

Typically, teachers and principals appoint patrol members, who participate with parental approval. A teacher usually serves as the patrol advisor. Local law enforcement officers may also be involved with your patrol.

**Benefits**

Being on the BFA School Safety Patrol has lots of benefits. Being a patroller, you will gain:

* Safety awareness.
* Leadership skills.
* Teamwork.
* Pride.
* Citizenship and community service.
* Respect for law enforcement.

Your school will benefit, too, as you help promote:

* Traffic safety awareness.
* Peer-to-peer communication.
* Character-building opportunities.
* A constructive outlet for student energy.
* A positive relationship with parents, law enforcement and the overall community.

Your community also will benefit from:

* Safer environments for pedestrians and motorists.
* A spirit of volunteerism and civic-mindedness.
* A positive collaboration between students, parents, schools and law enforcement.

# Behaviors

Taking My Duties Seriously

* Sign in/out at the front office at the beginning and end of your duties
* Pickup and return safety equipment to it’s assigned location at the beginning and end of your shift
* Wait for assigned post by designated school official
* Look, act and be alert.
* Report for duty on time.
* Always set a good example. Know and practice safe walking tips.
* Never stop vehicles.
* Perform your patrol duties faithfully.
* Be neat and clean while on duty.
* Be dependable and trustworthy.
* Be courteous and polite at all times.
* Treat others as you would like to be treated.
* Wear your belt and badge proudly.
* Remind classmates of safe walking rules without being bossy.
* Give correct crossing signals to classmates.
* Obey rules of the patrol, school and home.

# Proper Uniform

Appearance is important!

* Wear your issued patrol belt with safety vest.
* Arrive at your post neat and clean.
* Dress appropriately for cold weather, wearing your belt and vest over your winter coat.
* Do not use an umbrella while on duty. Raincoats may be worn under your designated safety vest and belt. Keep your hands free for signaling.

# Safety

Before arriving at their post, patrollers should be sure to place backpacks and other belongings in a safe place near their post or at school so they do not interfere with their duties.

* At their post, patrollers stand at least one foot back from the curb in a comfortable position.
* Patrollers should look around for cars and students that may approach.
* It is not safe to play near the street, and patrollers should take the responsibility seriously.

Patrollers are role models and should set a good example for other students.

**Carpool/Parent Drop-Off Areas**

Parent drop-off and pick-up areas are very dangerous. Here are some tips to do your job safely:

* While on duty at pick-up/drop-off areas, patrollers should be available to open doors for younger students or those who have their hands full.
* Do not allow students to reach under a vehicle to pick something up for any reason.
* Notify an adult if a student drops something. Never reach under a vehicle or bus. Leave this job to a teacher or another adult.
* If there is no teacher present, notify your patrol sponsor.
* Remind kids to stay on the sidewalk and cross in designated crossing areas only.

**Disobedient Students**

Sometimes, you may see children who are acting unsafe at your post. If so, here are some things to keep in mind:

* If you see children being unsafe at your post, ask them nicely to stop the unsafe behavior.
* If the behavior continues, report this activity to your patrol sponsor.
* Adults may cross at your post, but remember, they do not have to follow your directions.
* If parents are there with children, they may cross along with the other kids, but parents do not have to follow your instructions.
* Never argue with parents.
* Let your patrol sponsor know about any issue.
* If you see a traffic violation, write down the vehicle’s color and tag number and report it to your patrol sponsor. Your patrol sponsor will alert the police of any recurring incidents.
* If you witness a traffic collision, stay at your post, keep kids out of the street and send someone to the school to report the crash to an adult.

**Concerns**

To remain safe on duty, patrol members must remain at their assigned posts and always properly display belts or ponchos.

Patrollers are trained to seek adult help in the following examples of specific traffic situations:

* Parked cars blocking the view of an intersection.
* Parked cars blocking school bus stop or student loading/unloading zone.
* Failure of motorists to obey traffic control devices.
* Suspicious activity by adults or students.
* Emergencies and injuries.
* Any situation beyond the realm of daily operation of duties at a patrol post.

**Stranger Danger**

Patrollers are trained to report problems with strangers to the patrol supervisor, teachers, parents or law enforcement. These “stranger danger” precautions are part of patrol training. Patrol members should be trained to never:

* Approach cars or allow other students to approach unknown motorists.
* Accept candy or presents from strangers.
* Help strangers with directions or search for a lost pet.
* Allow their photos to be taken.
* Divulge their name, address, phone number or other personal information.

Patrol members are trained to seek immediate help if:

* They become suspicious of the behavior of older students or adults.

Patrol members should make as much noise as possible if a stranger grabs them.

##### **How do you become a Safety Patrol member?**

##### Middle School students fill out an application and write an essay describing why they want to be a part of Safety Patrol and what qualities they have that makes them a good Safety Patrol member. The student must also have a parent or guardian and their teacher sign the application. Teachers will sign the student’s application based on their dependability, good behavior, consistency in academics and leadership. After the application has been submitted, the student will be interviewed.  **What are the Safety Patrol duties?**Safety Patrol students help maintain order inside and outside of school during dismissal.  They keep students safe by reminding them not to run and by helping other students that need assistance.  Safety Patrol Members will assist teachers and staff during departure times. **Duty Times**Students should arrive at the front office with their safety equipment provided by the school on and ready for duty at the times listed:

##### Morning Duty is from 7:30 to 8:15.

Afternoon Duty is from 3:25 to 4:15.

**Requirements of a Safety Patrol Member**

1. Always report for duty on time.

2. Perform their duty by greeting and being respectful to all staff, parents, students and visitors.

3. Remain at their assigned post during their scheduled duty time.

4. Uphold the 13 Virtues:

 ***Temperance*** – Control is the key to improvement. Keep your words, actions, and temper in control. (April)

 ***Silence*** – There is a time and place to speak up and a time to listen. You learn more by listening than speaking. (September)

 ***Order*** – All things have their place. Keep your work area in order; keep your day in order. (October)

 ***Resolution*** – Keep your word. When you have a task, get it done. Turn in your homework on time and be prepared. (January)

 ***Frugality*** – Be frugal. Do not waste the school’s resources. Respect what you have been given. Reduce, reuse, recycle. (December)

 ***Industry*** – Keep on task. There is a time for work and a time for play – do both with a good attitude. (April)

 ***Sincerity*** – Be kind. Say kind words and treat others as you want to be treated.  Encourage each other to succeed. (November)

 ***Justice*** – Be respectful. Give everyone a chance to work or play. Give others a chance to express themselves. Share. Remember that others are counting on you, so live up to your duty. (September)

 ***Moderation*** – Keep yourself in balance. Focus both on accomplishing things in which you excel and those you do not. Try new things. (May)

 ***Cleanliness*** – Keep yourself and your work area clean. Keep your uniform clean. Keep your school clean. Keep your words clean. (October)

 ***Tranquility*** – Keep yourself from reacting poorly to others. People are not perfect and the world is not fair. Learn to deal with both despite imperfections. Be patient. (March)

 ***Purity*** – Be pure in thought and deed. White lies, a little gossip, and small, mean words are painful and say more about you than about others. What you think about others is how you will treat them. Develop good thoughts and feelings toward all. (February)
 ***Humility*** – Be mindful of others before yourself. Treat them as you want to be treated.  Think about how you can help others before being asked. Let others speak when it is their turn. (November)

5. Maintain excellent behavior throughout the day in all areas, including the classroom, specials, cafeteria, bus and playground.

6. Always BE SWIFT!!!