

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Safety Patrol Program at Turner Creek Elementary School. I hope this information will help answer any questions you might have about Safety Patrol.

There are many benefits to being a member of Safety Patrol, such as learning responsibility, leadership, commitment and the satisfaction of helping others, just to name a few. I appreciate teaming with you to teach these life lessons to your child.

If you have any questions about Safety Patrol, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best way to get in touch is at [kwhilden@wcpss.net](mailto:kwhilden@wcpss.net).

Sincerely,

Kevin Whilden

Safety Patrol Supervisor



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

In 4<sup>th</sup> grade, students fill out the application and write an essay describing why they want to be on Safety Patrol and what qualities they have that makes them a good Safety Patrol member. The student also must have a parent/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 turned in, the student will be interviewed. Students who are chosen to be on Safety Patrol will be notified either by e-mail or a letter sent home. If there are too many students who have applied to Safety Patrol, the students not chosen will be placed on a waiting list.

### **What are the Safety Patrol duties?**

Safety Patrol students help maintain discipline and orderliness inside/outside of the school during arrival/dismissal. They keep students safe by reminding them not to run, helping them if they have fallen or dropped something, escorting students to/from their vehicles to open/close doors and assisting teachers and staff during arrival/departure time. Carpool Safety Patrol members will also put up and take down the flag outside in front of the school.

### **Description of Duties**

AM Car Pool: Safety Patrol will stand behind the red planters. When a car approaches your area, wait until it comes to a complete stop. Once the car has stopped, open the door and let the student(s) out. Make sure they are completely out of the car, tell the driver to have a nice day and gently close the door. Put up the American and NC flag.

PM Car Pool: Safety Patrol will ensure students remain behind the red planters until the car comes to a complete stop. Once the car has stopped, open the car door and make sure the students are completely in the car before telling the driver to have a nice day and gently closing the door. Take down the American and NC flag.

AM Bus: Safety Patrol will report to the outside doors to the bus loop. They will either hold the doors open for students or position themselves in a visible place to remind students to walk in a safe manner.

PM Bus: Safety Patrol will help place the numbered cones by the correct buses when they arrive. They will also inform the Media Center of what buses arrive and hold the doors so the students can exit the school.

### **Duty Times**

Students should arrive at their areas with their vest on and be ready for duty at the times listed below. Morning Duty is from 8:40 to 9:10. Afternoon Duty is from 3:30 to 4:00. On early release days afternoon duty is from 1:00 to 1:30.

## **Dress**

Safety Patrol members should dress appropriately for the weather conditions. Ponchos and some umbrellas are available in the event of an unexpected rain storm for Safety Patrol members on carpool duty.

## **What to do if unable to do Safety Patrol?**

If you know in advance that you will miss a duty, first try to find a replacement. If that doesn't work, notify Mr. Whilden and he will find a replacement.

If something comes up at the last minute, say you get sick, don't worry about finding a replacement. Instead notify Mr. Whilden so he knows what happened. Remember, one of the character traits Safety Patrol reinforces is responsibility. Safety Patrol members are encouraged to take responsibility for their assigned duty.

## **Safety Patrol Scheduling**

Where and when students have duty depends on different factors. How a student comes to school and leaves is one such factor. If you come and leave school by car, you will be assigned to the carpool area. A bus rider cannot have carpool duty because they would not know when their bus arrives and leaves before carpool is done in the afternoon. To avoid these problems, bus riders will always be assigned bus duty. They will start bus duty Safety Patrol when their bus arrives in the morning and help out in the afternoon until their bus leaves. Students who go to the YMCA have more flexibility than the other students since they might be here before and after school. Students will be assigned to Safety Patrol only when they are tracked in.

## **Requirements of a Safety Patrol Member**

1. Always report for duty on time.
2. Perform their duty cheerfully by greeting and being courteous to all staff, parents, students and visitors.
3. Be attentive while on duty and never initiate or take part in any form of inappropriate behavior.
3. Remain at their assigned post during their scheduled duty time.
4. Arrange coverage for your assigned duty if you know you are going to be absent.
5. Uphold the eight character traits: courage, self-discipline, perseverance, integrity, respect, responsibility, kindness and good judgment.
6. Maintain good grades in the classroom.
7. Maintain excellent behavior in all areas of the school, including the classroom, specials, cafeteria and playground.