



Parent/Guardian Guide: Talking Points

Introduction

- Thank you for taking the time to talk about [my/our] idea to implement AAA School Safety Patrol here at [school name].
- I think of it as a leadership program that focuses on safety. It's peer-to-peer oriented, and it's about students directing students, not traffic.
- I'm sure we can agree that safety is extremely important, especially around our school, where so many cars come and go on a daily basis.
- Recent research has shown that schools with a AAA School Safety Patrol program have higher safety scores compared to those that do not.
- Tens of thousands of schools and hundreds of thousands of students across the country currently participate in this program from AAA.
- The program has a rich history and has been around since 1920. Several US Presidents participated in this program when they were in school.
- AAA provides FREE training and all of the equipment for schools.
- Everyone benefits when this program is implemented:
 - Students gain leadership experience and problem solving skills.
 - Our school gains safety for both students and teachers.
 - Our community becomes a safer environment for all.

Local Contact and Awards

- Even though this is a national program, we would have a contact from the local AAA branch who will support us in implementing this program. The AAA representative would help us get started, deliver training materials and equipment, and help guide us through the process.
- Once we get the program going, we are eligible to apply for the AAA School Safety Patrol annual awards, where we can nominate both Patrollers and Patrol Advisors for their outstanding commitment to the program. Several winners are selected regionally. Winning schools receive a grant to invest in the continuation of the program. That could help us grow the program and reward the kids that participate.

Lesson Plan

- Another resource that AAA offers for free is the School Safety Lesson Plan. This is a great way to preview the full School Safety Patrol program in the classroom.
- The lesson plan covers many of the same safety topics that are covered in the patrol program, while also emphasizing teamwork and leadership skills among the students.
- This resource can be downloaded for free on AAA's website, and comes with all of the

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materials that are needed to teach the lesson plan in the classroom. AAA will even send a free gift for the classroom to teachers who download, and their students.

Next Steps

- In order to participate, we will need the school's approval.
- We will also need to determine who is going to lead the program:
 - Teachers
 - Principal / Assistant Principal
 - PTA volunteer
 - Other school official
- These selected people will become the Patrol Advisor and will guide the children through their daily posts. An adult advisor must be present for the patrol program to operate.
- Next, we need to recruit students interested in participating and determine how many students we will start with for the first semester.
 - We can start with a few kids and grow the program over time. The trick is to get started!
- We then need to register our school and request the necessary equipment on the AAA website: schoolsafety.calstate.aaa.com. The local AAA representative can help us determine what we need and register for us, if we need help.

Conclusion

- I think this is a valuable program that can really enrich our students and foster a spirit of leadership.
- As a free resource, the only cost to our school will be in the time needed to supervise the program, which will be well worth the effort.
- You can learn more at AAA's website: schoolsafety.calstate.aaa.com.
- What can we do to get approval?
- Thank you so much for your time!