



Thursday, November 22, 2018

THE
DURHAM
DISTRICT
SCHOOL
BOARD

Dear Parents and Guardians,

There is nothing more important than the safety of our students. With this in mind, I am writing to share information regarding an incident in which an alleged stranger recently approached one of our senior students and told the student to get in his car. The student ran away and was not harmed. The stranger drove away.

We commend our student for their quick thinking and reporting the situation to an adult. Durham Regional Police Service have been contacted and are following up on the report.

At school today, and over the next few days, we will be reviewing safety tips in an age-appropriate manner in all classes. Considering this recent concern, this is an opportune time to review general safety tips with your children. To assist you, we have compiled a list of safety guidelines for you to review with your child now, and at any time of year. Staff, students and parents work and communicate together to make a difference for our learning environment. Our communication continues to be the key to our success. Please discuss the following suggestions with your family so that safe strategies are reinforced.

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Safety Guidelines:

- Always walk with a buddy to and from school
- Do not talk to strangers
- Inform your parents and the school if a stranger approaches you
- Remember, adults do not ask for directions from children
- Always let your parents know if there has been a change in your plans
- Avoid taking shortcuts through fields and parks
- Never walk alone, especially at night
- Be aware of your surroundings when wearing earphones
- It is okay for children not to speak to adults who they do not know

Please take a moment to review these tips with your child. Together, we can keep our school and community a safe environment for our children.

Sincerely,

Principal
Jeffrey Knox
Sir Samuel Steele Public School