

May 13, 2016

Dear Parents,

One of the strengths of our school district is the fact that our schools are located in the neighborhood. Being a good neighbor is important to us and good neighbors take the time to share information and keep each other informed.

This is the time of year when we often hear about incidents of strangers approaching children while walking to and from school, when they are out playing in the neighborhood, or at the local park. Thankfully, we have not experienced any incidents of “Stranger Danger” in our neighborhood but we have heard of possible incidents in communities near our city.

We are very fortunate in Dearborn to have one of the best police departments in the state. Dearborn police officers regularly keep watch and patrol around our schools and other areas where children may gather.

As parents, you can also help to keep our community safe. Please take a moment to discuss with your child how to be safe to and from school and when they are out playing in the neighborhood. Here are a few helpful reminders:

- Never talk to a stranger.
- Never get into a car with a stranger, even if they tell you they are looking for a lost pet or someone you know is hurt and they will take you to them.
- Children should walk to and from school with other children.
- Always report suspicious characters to parents, teachers and the police.
- If approached by a stranger, tell an adult.

We live in a safe community but in order for us to keep our community safe we must be good neighbors, keep an open line of communication, and work together so our children can be safe at home, in the neighborhood, or walking to and from school.

Regards,

*Martha Burch*

Principal

Howard Elementary