Communicating Is Key to Success

Communication is critical to a school crime watch program. Students report crime because it is a serious issue—not to get someone they don't like into trouble. Not reporting can place a student in a threatening situation. It is a school crime watch's responsibility to keep all reports confidential. If students start finding out about who reported on whom, people won't continue to participate in the program. Students reporting must know that they will be anonymous.

Helping Out Builds Momentum for the Program

A school crime watch goes beyond just watching out for its fellow classmates. Activities such as drug- and alcohol-free parties, date rape/rape awareness days, newspaper columns in the school or local paper, and crime and drug abuse prevention tips announced on the P.A. system are ways to build interest in your program. Longer term projects that promote student well-being include conflict resolution projects, cross-age teaching and mentoring, vandalism prevention, even bus safety.

Examining the Results

Do school crime watch programs work? Yes!

Crime dropped 45 percent at one high school in Florida within a year of initiating a school crime watch!

Active school crime watch programs have been able to reduce violence, guns, drug use, and many other crime-related activities in schools across the country. The schools with active watches are happier, safer places.

Resources

Youth Crime Watch of America
9300 South Dadeland Boulevard, Suite 100
Miami, FL 33156
305-670-2409 (phone)
305-670-3805 (fax)
www ycwa.org

Stand Up and Start a School Crime Watch Today!

Take a Bite Out of Crime

Crime Prevention Tips From
National Crime Prevention Council
1700 K Street, N.W. Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006-5817
www we preventorg
What is a Student Patrol?


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