

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Craig A. Stough – 5/27/2021

“2021 Safety City”

The 2021 Sylvania Safety City will take place the week of June 7th at Maplewood Elementary School. This will be Sylvania Safety City’s 35th year and over 6000 students have attended over those years, including my own children.

Unfortunately, last year's in person 2020 Safety City had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sylvania Police Division worked to share much of the same information with the young students, but had to do it remotely, safely following pandemic guidelines.

This year Sylvania’s five year old children, about to enter kindergarten, were eligible to register, and will graduate at the end of the week on Friday, June 11th. I always enjoy attending the 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. graduation ceremonies at Maplewood Elementary.

Sylvania's children are our most precious and important community asset. Sylvania’s version of Safety City helps to get them off to a safe start as they begin attending school. The children attend either a morning or an afternoon class for five days at Maplewood Elementary School. Important topics covered include:

- Memorization of Name, Address and Telephone Number
- Classroom Skills
- Safely Crossing the Street
- Traffic Signs and Signals
- Seat Belt Safety
- Fire Prevention
- Stop, Drop, Cover, and Roll
- Stranger Danger
- School Bus Safety and going for a short school bus ride
- Bicycle Safety including always wearing a helmet
- Railroad Crossings Safety
- Safety around animals
- Water Safety
- Medical Emergencies and Ambulances

A neighborhood of streets, sidewalks, signs, crosswalks, lights, etc. is set up outside the school to help practice the safety lessons they are learning. The children get to meet police officers, firefighters and other emergency personnel, and learn that these people are there to help them.

Safety City is a memorable experience for the children who attend. When I ask groups of students about Safety City years later during their D.A.R.E. Graduation, their reactions are always prompt and positive. The D.A.R.E. program is also about the safety of our children, giving 5th graders the tools they need to say no to drugs and alcohol, and resist the peer pressure or bullying to do so.

Thank you to all who help make Safety City a great experience for our children, including all the teachers, police officers, firefighters and other personnel and volunteers who help out. Also, our thanks to the Sylvania Township Fire Department, the Sylvania Schools Transportation Division, City Street Department, Norfolk Southern Railroad, the Lucas County Canine Care & Control, Republic Services and Garbage Gus, Toledo Edison, Mercy Health-St. Vincent Medical Center and the Sylvania Schools for their assistance.

And thank you to all the parents for entrusting your children to us and for supporting the program and attending the graduation ceremony.



2018 Safety City