



SPECIAL ORDER

SPECIAL ORDER 2018.08

Adopt-A-School Program

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MEDIA AFFAIRS

Issue Date: February 09, 2018
Expiration Date: Upon release of General Order
Applicability: All Uniformed Career and Volunteer Personnel

1 OVERVIEW

2 Beginning in the spring of 2018, the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services
3 (Department) will begin to implement a community outreach program known as “Adopt-A-School” in
4 alliance with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS). The vision of the program is to continue
5 life safety efforts in Howard County by fostering community relationships and encouraging Howard
6 County youth to interact with their Fire and EMS community members. The goal is to work
7 collaboratively to create a safe, fun, learning nurturing community by developing a relationship between
8 each HCPSS elementary school and its community fire station. The Department has predetermined, due
9 to geographic locations, which schools and fire stations will be linked. The station captain(s) will
10 determine which shift and/or company is assigned to the preselected schools in their first due area.
11 Stations with dual companies have been given more schools to equally spread the workload. The
12 program will require crews to participate and engage with students, teachers, and faculty several times
13 throughout the academic year to promote life safety and Department awareness within the youth of the
14 County.

15 DEFINITIONS

16 ➤ None

17 TOPIC DETAILS

18 GENERAL:

19 Department crews will:

- 20 • Develop a relationship with a neighboring elementary school (See Attachment A).
- 21 • Station Captains will assign shifts to pre-designated schools (See Attachment A).
- 22 • Collaborate with the school Principal to identify possible activities that fire station personnel may
23 participate in with school staff, students, and families, including, but not limited to:
 - 24 ○ Visit the school during lunchtime **four times each school** year to give students and staff the
25 opportunity to get to know their local Fire and EMS community members.
 - 26 ○ Participate in **at least one** practice fire drill with the school.
 - 27 ○ Provide age appropriate risk reduction strategies.



Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services

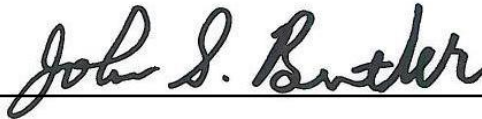
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- 28 ○ Assist Department Risk Reduction Educators in presenting safety and prevention programs to
- 29 school staff and parents, such as AED, CPR, Stop the Bleed, etc.
- 30 ○ Invite students and their families to visit the fire station for tours and other activities.
- 31 ○ As scheduling and operational call volume allows:
- 32 ▪ Volunteer for school activities such as Career Awareness Day, Field Day, Simulated
- 33 Congressional Hearings, GT Enrichment Fair, etc.
- 34 ▪ Attend school events such as music concerts, performances, student recognition
- 35 ceremonies, etc.
- 36
- 37 ● Provide information, via email, to the Public Education Specialist on:
- 38 ○ When a school was visited
- 39 ○ Which school was visited
- 40 ○ What activity took place (i.e. Fire Drill, Lunchtime Visit, risk reduction presentation, etc.)

FORMS/ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCES

- 42 ● Attachment A: Fire Station School Assignments by Fire Station

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45 Approved:

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49 John S. Butler, Fire Chief
50 Office of the Fire Chief

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53 Author:

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57 Brad Tanner, Director of Community Outreach & Media Affairs
58 Community Outreach & Media Affairs
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Attachment A

Fire Station School Assignments by Fire Station:

Fire Station	School
Elkridge, Station 1	Bellows Springs ES Ducketts Lane ES Elkridge ES Hanover Hills ES
Ellicott City, Station 2	Ilchester ES Northfield ES Veterans ES Worthington ES Rockburn ES Centennial Lane ES
West Friendship, Station 3	Dayton Oaks ES Manor Woods ES West Friendship ES
Lisbon, Station 4	Lisbon ES
Fifth District, Station 5	Atholton ES Clarksville ES Pointers Run ES
Savage, Station 6	Bollman Bridge ES Forest Ridge ES Guilford ES
Banneker, Station 7	Bryant Woods ES Longfellow ES Running Brook ES Swansfield ES Clemens Crossing ES Thunder Hill ES
Bethany, Station 8	Waverly ES St Johns ES Hollifield ES
Long Reach, Station 9	Deep Run ES Jeffers Hill ES Phelps Luck ES Waterloo ES
Rivers Park, Station 10	Cradlerock ES Gorman Crossing ES Stevens Forest ES Talbot Springs ES
Scaggsville, Station 11	Fulton ES Hammond ES Laurel Woods ES
Glenwood, Station 13	Bushy Park ES Triadelphia ES