

# Camp Hill Borough “in desperate need” of crossing guards for 2023-2024 school year

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*Pexels*

[CAMP HILL] Camp Hill School District is a walking school – students are responsible for their own transportation to and from school; whether it be walking, biking, driving or dropped off by a parent.

But earlier this month, Chief of Police Stephen Margeson wrote a [message to residents](#) of the Borough explaining that the school needs crossing guards for the upcoming school year.

“After years of being unable to recruit and hire adequate numbers of crossing guards, the Borough of Camp Hill contracted with a private company to provide crossing guard services,” says Margeson. “The problem is that their pool of applicants has been shrinking. They cannot hire enough crossing guards to fill vacancies in Camp Hill.”

This isn’t the first time that the police department has reached out to residents about the staffing issues. Amanda Keefer, a mother with two students in the district, says that she’s always noticed that there was an issue with staffing.

“After COVID we were receiving more intense emails in need of crossing guards,” she says. She drops her daughter off and picks her up at a location near the school to make sure she can safely get to and from school.

Having crossing guards is crucial with about 60-70% of students walking or riding their bikes to school each day and drivers being more active as children are getting out of school.

“We have busy market street, we have Cumberland Boulevard which is 11 and 15 that runs through the borough, so we have a lot of traffic that comes through the borough each day . . . for kids to be crossing the street without a crossing guard is quite dangerous” says Capers.

Out of eight posts that police want to have staffed in the borough, they were only able to cover six during the last school year. Crossing guards had to direct children towards intersections that were staffed so that they could cross the street safely. For next year, there are even fewer crossing guards currently staffed.

“Right now, we only have four . . . we are in desperate need for some crossing guards and for people to come out and help us,” says Capers.

Crossing guards will make \$20 an hour with shifts being about 7 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. in the mornings and 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. in the evenings. Training and equipment are provided. Anyone interested should contact the Camp Hill Police Department for more information.