Crossing guards help us feel safe

Pottstown deploys 25 crossing guards every school day to watch over children at intersections throughout town.

They are hired by a private firm and supervised and funded by the Pottstown School District.

They are on duty for about an hour in the morning and 45 minutes in the afternoon. Many are parents or retirees. They are paid $19.38 per hour.

Commentary by Thomas Hylton

Crossing guards do far more than stop traffic at intersections. They are friendly faces and a calming influence on our walkers. Many children bond with them over time.

They are "eyes on the street" that encourage good behavior. Nearly all have cell phones for emergencies.

Crossing guards also act as public relations ambassadors, demonstrating that Pottstown is a safe place to live and travel.

They are a daily reminder that Pottstown is a great place to bring up children.