

# JssP

## Safe Community Network News

By Japanese Society of Safety Promotion

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3. Shimizu elementary school under preparation of International Safe School.
4. Sakae Ward Human Rights Seminar.

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### 1.Toshima City has started community safety promotion program

Yukio Takano Mayor of Toshima City, Tokyo Metropolitan has declared a start of community safety promotion program on 22. Feb 2010.

Toshima City, one of 23 specially designated municipalities of Tokyo is located in the northwest of Tokyo. With 13.01 km<sup>2</sup> of land and a population of 263,000 people, Toshima is the most densely populated area in Japan. It is also known as the birthplace of somei-yoshino, one of the most popular species of cherry tree, blossoms of which are representing Japan. The somei-yoshino is also Toshima City's official tree.

The core of the city is a metropolitan sub center called Ikebukuro, where is concentrated with cultural, commercial, and business facilities. There are about 2,630,000 people per day passing through the Ikebukuro Station which is one of 16 train stations in Toshima City. Due to convenience of the public transportation as mentioned above, residential areas have been growing.

Toshima City is also an academic town, with 100,000 students studying at six universities and unique vocational schools in the city. For many years, young people have been moved into Toshima with dreams for the future. Therefore, residents are proud of the history with rich culture and the arts.

With effort to lead the city safer and more peaceful, they have been working hard to develop programs with local city residents, so that residents take the initiative in city planning to ensure health and safety in everyday life.

Toshima City is aiming for becoming a member of International Safe Community on 2012, it is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of city's cooperation. At a press conference on 22, Feb, Mayor and concerned persons of city government read out "Toshima City Safe Community Declaration".



### 2.Ikeda elementary school attached to Osaka Kyoiku University was designatated International Safe School

Ikeda Elementary School attached to Osaka Kyoiku University was designated International Safe School as the first in Japan, and the designation ceremony was held on 5.May 2010. Ikeda elementary school used to suffer a tragically case that 8 students were killed by an invader in the school on 2001. Since suffering the case, the school has been conducting various activities for safety school.

International Safe School is the international designation, it is given to a school of which has been conducting activities for safe environment on education. 32 schools in New Zealand, Korea, Taiwan so on was already designated, Ikeda elementary school was designated as 33<sup>rd</sup> International Safe School on the world.



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About 600 students and parents participated in the designation ceremony. At first of ceremony, Prof Daisuke Hujita, Principal of Ikeda Elementary School attached to Osaka Kyoiku University, Board member of Japanese Society of Safety Promotion, gave opening message us “Designation is not Goal, please work together to improve safer and more secure school”. on the signing ceremony of agreement, Max L. Vosskuhler Director of International Safe School Center, Ming-Shinn Lee Director Taiwanese Safe School Promotion Center, Kaoru Kurata Mayor of Ikeda City, Akio Nagao Principal of Osaka Kyoiku University, Hitoaki Sakamoto Presidents of Parents and Teacher Association, Daisuke Hujita principal of Ikeda Elementary School attached to Osaka Kyoiku University put their sign on agreement of international safe school. And then Max L. Vosskuhler Director of International Safe School Center appealed to all “Let’s expand Safe School Movement to entire world”

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage, The performance of Japanese Drums was played by students of Japanese Drums Club, and then students 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grade played each performance they have been training to celebrate the designation. At first students of 4<sup>th</sup> grade song in chorus “Tetsuwan Atomu” it is a theme song of Astro Boy of which is a symbol of Ikeda elementary School attached to Osaka Kyoiku University Safe School. And students of 5<sup>th</sup> grade song in chorus “We are the World”. At the part of a refrain, everyone in the venue everyone became one and song the part. And then students of 6<sup>th</sup> grade showed their safety studies for learning important of life on the class of safety subject. In according of their presentation, all students have been learning important of life and carrying out school safety program through classes of safety subject, such as making safety map, traffic safety, drawing prevention, earthquake disaster prevention, first aid. At the end of ceremony, Pronouncement of International Safe School was read out by students, parents and teachers

“We will continue to learn the importance of the protection of life and the importance of life itself. We will continue to convey the thoughts of those who give life importance. And as we will connect to all of the world we hope for the safety and peaceful of mind of every country and every school.”

It was very impressed designation ceremony, beside I felt keenly that we have to continue to foster their mind they give life importance.

### Indicator of Safe School

1. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaboration, governed by a group of teachers, pupils, technical staff and parents responsible for safety promotion in school; The group should be chaired by a School Board representative, with the head teacher as a co-chair; .
2. Safe School policies, determined by the School Board and the Community Council in a Safe Community setting;s
3. Long-term, sustainable operational programs covering genders and all school ages, environments, and situations;
4. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments, and ones that promote safety for members of vulnerable groups;
5. Programs that document the frequency and causes of injuries – both non-intentional (accidents) and intentional (violence and self-inflicted);
6. Evaluation measures to assess policies, programs, processes and the effects of change;
7. Ongoing participation in Safe Schools networks – at community, national and international levels.

(WHO Collaborating Center on Community Safety Promotion Web-Site)

### 2. Atsugi City; Safe School Movement of Atsugi municipal Shimizu Elementary School

As you know, Atsugi has been conducting community safety promotion to become a member of international Safe Community. Atsugi municipal Shimizu elementary school has started safe school program to improve safer school as well as safe community.

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Shimizu elementary school has been conducting various activities for safe children since April 2009, on a lead of Shimizu Child Network Council which was established by Parent and teacher, residents and concerned organizations in Shimizu area.

Introducing their programs, there are bicycle helmet wearing program, injury surveillance in school, improve a road safer between the school and home, watching children on a road between school and home. As the result of these programs, Children accident was reduced from 8 accidents in 2008 to 0 in 2010.

Shimizu elementary school is aiming for International Safe School as second school in Japan. They will promote their activities more, and reduce student injury.



#### **4.Yokohama City Sakae Ward Human Rights Seminar “Protection of children rights on community level –Safe Community for protecting children life-”**

On 9.Feb, Yokohama City Sakae Ward Human Rights Seminar, titled “Protection of children rights on community level –Safe Community for protecting children life-”, was held at a ward fall, inviting Dr Yoshihide Sorimachi (Director of Kamitosan Public Health Center, Aomori Prefecture) as a lecturer. About 140 people participated in the seminar, and they learned the importance of the protection of children life”.

As Dr Yoshihide Sorimachi used to be a coroner, Lecture started from a talk about an experience at that time. The experience was about an autopsy of a death caused by child abuse. When he gave the autopsy, he thought why children were killed, why we could not protect. This thought led him to learning Safety Promotion in Sweden. He talked us a lot about the deference between Sweden and Japan. Sweden enacted the physical punishment prohibition law in the first of the world. The law protects children rights, it is said over 90% of all children in Sweden have not had experience of the physical punishment. In Japan, parents have a disciplinary punishment right, so it is afraid to be a hotbed of child abuse.

After his experience talk, topic turned to Safety Promotion focused in child injury and suicide of which is main reasons of the child death. Now that a relationship among residents in community is becoming weaker, so it is necessary to build a new type community which residents can participate and create, and which has a harmony between public profit and personal profit. He said it is just Safety Promotion. Because Safety Promotion is just the movement in order to improve an environment, educate residents, enact needed laws or rules. The goal of the movement is to build the social inclusion. In the process of it, people accept each deference or diversity, and the relation among people is built.

Topics turn to Safe Community, he showed Towada Safe community movement. Back ground, process, organization and programs were showed. At the end, he said that developing safe and secure community is creating a new social value, and it is just Safe Community. Beside he emphasized that human life is limited, but we have to prevent to be killed and get injury by accidents, suicide and violence. His lecture finished with a message “We should always be in cooperation for our safer and more peaceful life. (Ms Megumi Inasaka; Sakae Ward, Yokohama)

#### **The 6<sup>th</sup> Asian regional conference on Safe Community in Tokyo Metropolitan Japan.**

JssP is very glad to inform you the 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference on Safe Community will be held in Tokyo Metropolitan Japan on 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March 2012. This news and JssP web-site will give you detail information about the conference We are looking forward to seeing you in Tokyo.