

Policy 3515.3: District Police/Security Department

Original Adopted Date: 3/13/2024

To help protect the safety of district students and staff and the security of district property, the Governing Board may maintain a district police or security department. The Board is committed to providing a positive school climate, mental health services, other student support services, and restorative justice practices to resolve conflicts and reduce law enforcement interactions with students.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training to staff regarding the role of district police or security officers and the appropriate circumstances for contacting such officers.

Duties of district police or security officers shall be delineated in a job description approved by the Board. Such duties shall focus on collaborative problem solving and, when circumstances warrant intervention with students, the use of positive and restorative approaches in accordance with Penal Code 13651. Police or security officer job duties shall not include the handling of routine student disciplinary matters.

Security Department

Persons employed or assigned as school security officers shall serve as watchpersons, security guards, or patrol person on or about district premises to protect persons or property, prevent the theft or unlawful taking of district property, or report unlawful activity to the district and local law enforcement agencies. (Education Code 38001.5)

When district security officers are unable to perform their duties because of an emergency, including, but not be limited to, war, epidemic, fire, flood, or work stoppage, or when the emergency necessitates additional security services, the Board may contract with a private licensed security agency. In such cases, the Board shall make a specific finding that an emergency exists and shall include this finding in the Board minutes. (Education Code 38005)

Conduct of Officers

The Board expects district police or security officers to cooperate and regularly communicate with local law enforcement agencies, and to work collaboratively with other district staff and community members to develop long-term, proactive approaches that address the conditions affecting school safety.

District police or security officers shall conduct themselves in ways that promote goodwill and cooperation on the part of students, district staff, and the general public. District police or security officers shall not discriminate against or treat any person differently on the basis of race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

District police or security officers shall not solicit or collect information or documents regarding the

citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members or provide assistance with immigration enforcement at district schools, except as may be required by state and/or federal law. (Education Code 234.7)

Whenever possible, district police or security officers shall use tactics such as de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention tactics, or other alternatives to force to minimize the use of force. The district police department shall maintain and make accessible to the public a policy on the use of force in accordance with Government Code 7286 and consistent with district policy and administrative regulation. Officers shall periodically receive training regarding applicable district policies and the guidelines from the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Equipment

District police or security officers shall not carry firearms.

The district police department shall be eligible to receive surplus military equipment pursuant to 10 USC 2576a only if, at a regularly scheduled public Board meeting, the Board approves the acquisition of such equipment after providing parents/guardians and members of the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed acquisition. The Board shall provide a detailed description of the function and purpose of the surplus military equipment, identify safe and secure storage for the equipment, and ensure that district police officers have adequate training in the safe use and handling of the equipment to be received. (Education Code 38004.5)

Records

District police or security officers shall not have access to student records, nor release student information to another person, agency, or organization, without written permission from the parent/guardian or adult student, unless specifically allowed or required by state or federal law. (Education Code 49076; 34 CFR 99.1)

Records created and maintained by the district police or security department for a law enforcement purpose are not considered disclosable student records under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. (34 CFR 99.3)

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State

Bus. Code 7583-7583.447

Ed. Code 234.7

Ed. Code 35021.5

Ed. Code 38000-38005

Ed. Code 45113

Ed. Code 45122.1

Description

[Private patrol operators](#)

[Student protections relating to immigration and citizenship status](#)

[School police reserve corps](#)

[Security departments](#)

[Probationary period and permanent status; non-merit system districts](#)

[Classified employees; conviction of a violent or serious felony](#)

Ed. Code 45133.5	School police department; work schedule
Ed. Code 45301	Probationary period and permanent status; merit system districts
Ed. Code 49076	Access to student records
Ed. Code 49079	Notification to teacher; student act constituting grounds for suspension or expulsion
Ed. Code 49390-49395	Homicide threats
Fam. Code 6240-6275	Emergency protective orders
Gov. Code 11135	Prohibition of discrimination
Gov. Code 12525.2	Reports of incidents involving peace officers
Gov. Code 3300-3312	Public safety officers; rights and protections
Gov. Code 7286-7286.5	Law enforcement use of force policies
Gov. Code 8597-8598	Emergencies; peace officers
Pen. Code 13510-13519.15	Standards for recruitment and training
Pen. Code 13651	Peace officers; job descriptions
Pen. Code 13700-13702	Response to domestic violence
Pen. Code 290.45	Sex offenders; authority of peace officers to provide information
Pen. Code 626.9	Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1995
Pen. Code 646.91	Emergency protective order for stalking
Pen. Code 830-832.19	Peace officers
Pen. Code 830.32	School district and community college police
Pen. Code 830.6	Reserve police officers; powers and duties
Pen. Code 832	Course of training prescribed by Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training
Pen. Code 832.15-832.16	Notice of prohibition against possession of firearm
Pen. Code 832.2	School peace officers; training
Pen. Code 832.7	Disclosure of personnel files in criminal or civil proceedings
Pen. Code 836	Peace officers; warrants
W&I Code 707	List of crimes
W&I Code 828-828.1	Disclosure of information re minors by law enforcement agency
Federal	Description
10 USC 2576a	Surplus military equipment
34 CFR 99.1-99.67	Family Educational Rights and Privacy

Management Resources

California Attorney General Publication

Description

Guidance and Model Policies to Assist California's K-12 Schools in Responding to Immigration Issues, 2018

Comm on Peace Officer Standards & Training Pub.

POST Use of Force Standards and Guidelines, November 2021

Court Case

San Diego Police Officers Association et al. v. City of San Diego Civil Service Commission et al. (2002) 104 Cal.App.4th 275

Website

[U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fusion Centers](#)

Website

[California State Threat Assessment System](#)

Website

[California Office of Emergency Services](#)

Website

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Website

[Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training](#)

Website

[California Department of Education, Safe Schools](#)

Website

[California Attorney General's Office](#)**Cross References****Code****Description**

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[Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities](#)

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[Comprehensive Safety Plan](#)

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[Comprehensive Safety Plan](#)

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[District And School Websites](#)

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Visitors/Outsiders](#)

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[Visitors/Outsiders](#)

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[Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools](#)

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[Campus Security](#)

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[Disruptions](#)

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4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

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