

Policy 3515.31: School Resource Officers

Original Adopted Date: 3/13/2024

The Governing Board is committed to protecting the safety of students and staff and the security of district property. The district shall develop a multi-tiered approach focused on the prevention of school violence and crime and the development of a positive school culture, which may include providing mental health services and other student support services, implementing restorative justice practices, implementing professional development addressing cultural competency, and employing and/or contracting with a law enforcement agency to provide school resource officers (SROs) on school campuses and/or school activities.

In order to reduce unnecessary law enforcement interactions with students, the Superintendent or designee shall provide training to school staff regarding the role of SROs and the appropriate circumstances for contacting such officers.

The Board shall approve a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the local law enforcement agency which includes, at a minimum:

1. The purpose of the agreement
2. A clear definition of the roles and responsibilities of the district, school site, law enforcement agency, and SROs, including responsibility for supervision of the SRO
3. The extent to which information will be shared between the district and law enforcement agency consistent with state and federal laws
4. Requirements for qualifications and training of SROs
5. Assigned hours of SRO duty in and around schools
6. Performance monitoring

The Board may expand on the above requirements to include more specific terms, such as acknowledgement of nondiscrimination requirements, training focused on eliminating disproportionalities in SRO contacts with students, and staffing of an SRO position when the assigned SRO is on leave.

Duties

SROs are duly sworn peace officers who are authorized to carry out their duties pursuant to state law.

Job duties of the SRO shall not include the handling of student code of conduct violations or routine student disciplinary matters that should be addressed by school administrators, or conduct that would be better addressed by mental health professionals.

SROs shall be expected to collaborate with district staff in problem solving and, when circumstances warrant intervention with students, to use positive and restorative approaches in accordance with Penal Code 13651. SROs shall use tactics such as de-escalation techniques to mitigate the use of

force in an educational setting and shall strictly adhere to the policy on minimum use of force pursuant to Government Code 7286.

When approved by the Superintendent or designee, an SRO may provide classroom presentations and/or parent/guardian education pertaining to safety issues and may link students, parents/guardians, and staff with resources and services.

Qualifications of Officers

Prior to beginning their assignment when possible, SROs shall complete specialized training in school policing, the unique experiences of the diverse populations within the school community, and the law enforcement agency's use of force policy.

Nondiscrimination

SROs shall not discriminate against or treat any person differently on the basis race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parental status, physical or mental disability, 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.

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board disaggregated data on student interactions with SROs to evaluate the appropriateness of such interactions and ensure compliance with the prohibition against nondiscrimination. Such reports may include the number of arrests and referrals for prosecution, the number of reports provided to the school or district regarding student misconduct, or other actions taken by SROs with respect to individual students or others on campus.

As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement practices to prevent disproportionality of student interactions with SROs based on student characteristics and to minimize the potential for referrals of students into the juvenile justice system.

Access to Records

SROs 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)

SROs 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)

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

Ed. Code 234.7

Description

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

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 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
Federal	Description
34 USC 10389	Public safety and community policing; definitions
Management Resources	Description
California Department of Education Publication	Guiding Principles: A Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline, 2014
Comm on Peace Officer Standards & Training Pub.	POST Use of Force Standards and Guidelines, November 2021
Nat'l Association of School Resource Officers Pub.	To Protect and Educate: The School Resource Officer and the Prevention of Violence in Schools, 2012
Nat'l Association of School Resource Officers Pub.	Standards and Best Practices for School Resource Officers
U.S. Department Of Justice Publication	Assigning Police Officers to Schools, 2013
U.S. Department Of Justice Publication	Violence Prevention in Schools: Enhancement Through Law Enforcement Partnerships, 2017
U.S. Department Of Justice Publication	Memorandum of Understanding Fact Sheet, 2017
U.S. Department Of Justice Publication	School Resource Officers and School-Based Policing, Fact Sheet, 2019
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
Website	National Association of School Resource Officers
Website	California School Resource Officers' Association
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
0410	<u>Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities</u>
0415	<u>Equity</u>
0450	<u>Comprehensive Safety Plan</u>
0450	<u>Comprehensive Safety Plan</u>
1250	<u>Visitors/Outsiders</u>
1250	<u>Visitors/Outsiders</u>
3515	<u>Campus Security</u>
3515	<u>Campus Security</u>
3515.2	<u>Disruptions</u>
3515.2	<u>Disruptions</u>
3515.3	<u>District Police/Security Department</u>
3515.3	<u>District Police/Security Department</u>
3515.5	<u>Sex Offender Notification</u>
3515.5	<u>Sex Offender Notification</u>
3515.7	<u>Firearms On School Grounds</u>
3516.2	<u>Bomb Threats</u>
4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
5131.4	<u>Student Disturbances</u>
5131.4	<u>Student Disturbances</u>
5131.5	<u>Vandalism And Graffiti</u>
5131.6	<u>Alcohol And Other Drugs</u>
5131.6	<u>Alcohol And Other Drugs</u>
5131.7	<u>Weapons And Dangerous Instruments</u>
5131.7	<u>Weapons And Dangerous Instruments</u>
5136	<u>Gangs</u>
5136	<u>Gangs</u>
5141.5	<u>Mental Health</u>

5142.1	<u>Identification And Reporting Of Missing Children</u>
5144	<u>Discipline</u>
5144	<u>Discipline</u>
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u>
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u>
5145.11	<u>Questioning And Apprehension By Law Enforcement</u>
5145.12	<u>Search And Seizure</u>
5145.12	<u>Search And Seizure</u>
5145.13	<u>Response To Immigration Enforcement</u>
5145.13	<u>Response To Immigration Enforcement</u>