

School Safety and Security Services Program

At the beginning of each school year, if the district has safety and security staff working on school property, the district must present to and discuss with students, and distribute to students' families, information about the role and responsibilities of safety and security staff.

At the beginning of each school year the district will conduct a gun safety awareness campaign in all schools to provide education for students and staff. This campaign will include providing gun safes to families that need them.

"Safety and security staff" means a school resource officer, a school security officer, a campus security officer, and any other commissioned or noncommissioned employee, whose primary job duty is to provide safety or security services for a public school.

"School resource officer" (SRO) means a commissioned law enforcement officer in the state of Washington with sworn authority to make arrests, deployed in community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police department or sheriff's office to work in schools to build positive relationships with students and address crime and disorder problems, gangs, drug activities, other safety concerns affecting or occurring in or around K-12 schools including, but not limited to bike and pedestrian safety, speed enforcement, and safe driving. School resource officers should focus on keeping students out of the criminal justice system when possible and should not be used to attempt to impose criminal sanctions in matters that are more appropriately handled within the educational system.

Purpose

The purpose of the Olympia School District safety and security services program is to improve school safety and the educational climate at the school. The safety and security staff shall be integrated into the school community through participation in faculty and student meetings and assemblies as appropriate. They shall support a positive school climate by developing positive relationships with students, parents, and staff, and by helping to promote a safe, inclusive, and positive learning environment. Safety and security staff are valuable team members of School Based Threat Assessment Teams, which are preventative in purpose. They are encouraged to participate consistent with Policy and Procedure 3225 – School Based Threat Assessment.

Limitations

The primary responsibility for maintaining proper order and conduct in the schools resides with school principals or their designee, with the support of other school staff. Principals or their designee maintain order and handle all student discipline matters consistent with Student Discipline Policy and Procedure 3241. A school resource officer is prohibited from becoming involved in school discipline situations that are the responsibility of school administrators.

Requests for Intervention

Teachers and school administrators may ask safety and security staff to intervene if a student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to others or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process or in other emergency circumstances consistent with 3432 – Emergencies. Safety and security staff do not need to be asked before intervening in emergencies. The superintendent shall include in the procedure for this policy detailed information about when it is appropriate for staff to ask for assistance from safety and security staff and shall report to the board annually on the communication and training plan for staff on this policy and procedure.

Law Enforcement Activity and Immigration Enforcement

As a general rule, law enforcement activity should take place at a location other than school premises. However, there are circumstances where law enforcement intervention/activity at school premises is warranted and may be conducted by an SRO. These law enforcement activities by an SRO may include interviews and interrogations; search of a student's person, possessions, or locker; citations, filing of delinquency petitions, referrals to a probation officer, actual arrests, and other referrals to the juvenile justice system, consistent with 3226 – Interview and Interrogations of Students on School Premises and 3230 – Student Privacy and Searches, and effective January 1, 2022, consistent with state law regarding a juvenile's access to an attorney when contacted by law enforcement. School resource or security personnel interrogation(s) of students will be in compliance with RCW 13.40.740 and any other statutes that may apply.

The SRO duties do not extend to immigration enforcement and the SRO will not inquire into or collect information about an individual's immigration or citizenship status, or place of birth. Neither will the SRO provide information pursuant to notification requests from federal immigration authorities for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement, except as required by law, consistent with 4310 – District Relationship with Law Enforcement and Other Government Agencies.

Annual Review and Adoption of Agreements with Law Enforcement Agencies

If a law enforcement agency supplies safety and security staff to work on school property when students are expected to be present, the district must annually review an agreement with the law enforcement agency. The Agreement is subject to approval by the Board. The agreement must:

A. Include a clear statement regarding safety and security staff duties and responsibilities related to student behavior and discipline that:

- prohibits a school resource officer from becoming involved in school discipline situations that are the responsibility of school administrators;
- recognizes that a trained safety and security staff knows when to informally interact with students to reinforce school rules and when to enforce the law;
- requires that all interactions related to discipline between school resource officers or school safety personnel be documented;
- clarifies the circumstances under which teachers and school administrators may ask safety and security staff to intervene with a student;
- explains how safety and security staff will be engaged in creating a positive school climate and positive relationships with students; and
- describes the process for families to file complaints with the school and, when applicable, the local law enforcement agency related to safety and security staff and a process for investigating and responding to complaints;

B. Include a jointly determined placement process and performance evaluation process that meaningfully involves a representative sample of students, families, and staff. This involvement may include, but is not limited to: surveys, listening sessions with staff and board, and community review of data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender identity, multilingual learners, students experiencing homelessness, students experiencing poverty, students served through an individualized education plan, and students served through a 504 plan about law enforcement interactions with students; and

C. Confirm that the safety and security staff have completed training series documentation provided by the educational service district prior to interactions with students in their official capacity.

D. Propose a holistic approach to collaboration between public safety agencies and the district. This will include, but is not limited to: ongoing support for school-based threat assessments, consultation on multi-tiered systems of support, and staff such as crisis response unit members and uniformed officers.

The agreement review and adoption process must provide students, parents, staff, and community members a public comment period that is a minimum of 10 days.

The superintendent or designee will develop additional procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References [RCW 10.93.160 – Immigration and Citizenship Status](#)
[RCW 26.44.030 Interviews of children](#)
[RCW 26.44.050 - Abuse or neglect of child — Duty of law enforcement agency or department of social and health services — Taking child into custody without court order](#)
[RCW 26.44.110 Information about rights — Custody](#)

without court order — Written statement required — Contents

RCW 26.44.115 Child taken into custody under court order — Information to parents

RCW 28A.300.640 - 645 – School based threat assessment program

Chapter 28A.320.124 – School resource officer programs

20 U.S.C. 1232g Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

SHB 1140, Chapter 328, Laws of 2021 Law Enforcement

Contact with Juveniles – Access to Attorney

Cross References

2121 - Substance Abuse Program

2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students

2162 - Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

3143 - Notification and Dissemination of Information about Student Offenses and Notification of Threats of Violence or Harm

3225 - School-Based Threat Assessment

3226 - Interviews and Interrogations of Students on School Premises

3230 - Student Privacy and Searches

3241 - Student Discipline

3246 - Restraint, Isolation and Other Uses of Reasonable Force

3432 - Emergencies

4210 - Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises

4310 - District Relationships with Law Enforcement and other Government Agencies

Management Resources 2020 - May Issue

ADOPTION DATE: September 14, 2023