

Students

Safety

School Resource Officer

In an effort to make schools more orderly, safe, and secure, the district may employ police officers to deliver security services as school resource officers (SROs).

The mission of the SRO Program is the reduction and prevention of school-related violence and crime committed by juveniles and young adults. The SRO Program aims to create and maintain healthy, safe, and secure learning environments for students, teachers, and staff. SROs will establish bonds of trust and enhanced levels of communication with students, parents, and teachers while serving as a positive role model to instill in students good moral standards, good judgment and discretion, respect for other students, and a sincere concern for the school community.

Essential Duties

- Enforce criminal law and protect the students, staff, and public-at-large against criminal activity.
- Notify school authorities and the parents of any child involved in direct law enforcement action either on-campus or off-campus, during or after school hours.
- Coordinate, whenever practical, investigative procedures between law enforcement and school administrators.
- Take appropriate enforcement action on criminal matters as necessary.
- Be highly visible throughout the schools.
- Confer with the principals to develop plans and strategies to prevent and/or minimize dangerous situations on or near the campus or involving students at school-related activities.
- Provide information concerning questions about law enforcement topics to students, parents, and staff.
- Develop expertise in presenting various subjects, particularly in meeting federal and state mandates in drug abuse prevention education and provide these presentations at the request of the school personnel in accordance with the established curriculum.
- Provide supervised classroom instruction on a variety of law related education and other topics deemed appropriate and approved by the SRO's agency supervisor and school administration.
- Attend school special events, as needed.
- Attend meetings of parent and faculty groups to solicit their support and understanding of the school resource program and to promote awareness of law enforcement functions.
- Be familiar with all community agencies that offer assistance to youths and their families such as mental health facilities, drug treatment centers, etc., and may make referrals when appropriate.

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- Intervene when it is necessary to prevent any criminal act or maintain a safe school environment.
- Assist other law enforcement agencies with incidents involving local criminal activity that may impact the safety of students and staff.

The Board shall enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the local police department that defines the officer's role and responsibilities, organizational structure, and procedures.

(cf. 5113.3 - Student Discipline and Punishment)

(cf. 5114 - Removal/Suspension/Expulsion)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5131.3 - Student Driving and Parking)

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism or Damage of School Property)

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol Use, Drug and Tobacco, including Performance Enhancing Substances)

(cf. 5131.61 - Inhalant Abuse)

(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5131.8 - Off School Grounds Misconduct)

(cf. 5141.6 - Crisis Response)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

(cf. 5144.1 - Physical Restraint / Seclusion)

(cf. 5145.11 - Questioning and Apprehension)

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

(cf. 5145.121 - Vehicle Searches on School Grounds)

(cf.5145.124 - Breathalyzer Testing)

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

4-176e through 4-180a. Contested Cases. Notice. Record

10-220 Duties of Boards of Education

10-233a through 10-233f Suspension, removal and expulsion of students, as amended by PA 95-304, PA 96-244, and PA 98-139

53a-3 Definitions

53a-217b Possession of Firearms and Deadly Weapons on School Grounds

PA 15-168 An Act Concerning Collaboration Between Boards of Education and School Resource Officers and the Collection and Reporting of Data on School-Based Arrests.

PA 94-221 An Act Concerning School Discipline and Safety.

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act, Pub. L. 103-227.

18 U.S.C. 921 Definitions.

Title III – Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Sec. 314 (Local Control Over Violence)

Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 as amended by the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994.

P.L. 105-17 The Individuals with Disabilities Act, Amendment of 1997.

Kyle P. Packer PPA Jane Packer v. Thomaston Board of Education.