

Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees

4. Organization, Education, and Policy Committee

October 22, 2019

Resource: H. Neil Matkin
District President

DISCUSSION ITEM: Resolution to Approve School Marshal Regulations

DISCUSSION: To meet the requirements of Board Policy CHA(Legal), a resolution of the Board that establishes the regulations for the School Marshal Program has been presented for consideration.

Overview of Guns on College Campuses:

Signed by Gov. Greg Abbott in summer 2015, Senate Bill 11 authorized individuals with a concealed handgun license (License to Carry—LTC) to carry a handgun while on Texas public community college campuses as long as the weapon is not visible. License holders must:

- Be 21 years old, unless they are active duty military or police officers;
- Meet federal qualifications to own a gun, and
- Receive training from an instructor certified by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Upon passage of the law, a task force of students, faculty members, staff members, and administrators was appointed to develop recommendations to implement Collin College's plan and to recommend exclusion zones on Collin College campuses. These exclusion zones were approved by the Board of Trustees in Board Policy CHF(Local) in June 2017.

While the law allowing concealed carry on university campuses went into effect in 2016, it became effective on August 1, 2017 for community college campuses.

Note: The law prohibits the college from inquiring whether an individual is licensed to carry a handgun and, as long as it remains properly concealed, the individual is completely authorized to carry his/her handgun on campus in non-exclusion areas and to keep a handgun in his/her locked vehicle on the college's parking lots.

School Marshal Program Overview

In 2013, HB 1009 was passed by the 83rd legislature that allows public school districts and open enrollment charter schools to appoint School Marshals. The 84th legislature passed SB 386 in 2015 to include public two-year junior colleges in the list of institutions that can appoint school marshals. It is codified in Texas Administrative Code Title 37 Part 7 Chapter 227.

Board Policy CHA(Local) was modified by the Collin College Board of Trustees at its December 11, 2018, meeting to permit the college to move forward with its application to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) for a School Marshal program. The college received approval from TCOLE on July 19, 2019.

The school marshal's singular purpose is to help protect Collin College faculty, staff, students, and community members on our campuses in the event of a situation that threatens serious bodily injury or death on college premises under circumstances that would justify the use of deadly force under Section 9.32 or 9.33 of the Penal Code.

School Marshal Regulations

Regulations have been developed to ensure that Collin College's candidates selected to serve as school marshals are well-qualified and skilled.

For the safety and security of Collin College's employees and students, the school marshal written regulations are not available pursuant to a request under the "Public Information Act." See Education Code 37.0811(g): Occupations Code 1701.260(j).