



## Devine Independent School District Board of Trustees Agenda Document

Meeting Date: September 16, 2024

Agenda Item: Consider Adopting Resolution Regarding Good Cause Exemption

Background Information:

During the last legislative session, HB 3 made numerous changes to school safety laws, including requiring districts to assign armed personnel at every campus. But unless the board claims a good cause exception due to lack of funding or qualified personnel, the board must ensure at least one armed security officer — specifically, a commissioned peace officer — is present during regular school hours at each campus. If the board claims an exception, the board must provide an alternative plan that may include reliance on a school marshal or an employee or contracted individual who has completed the handgun safety course required for handgun license holders and is authorized to carry a firearm by the district (often called a “guardian”). These requirements went into effect with the 2023-24 school year.

Administrative Consideration:

The Board of Trustees may determine that the District qualifies for the good cause exception(s), due to a lack of funding and the shortage of available commissioned peace officers in the District’s geographical area. The Board of trustees has developed a suitable alternative for providing safe and secure campuses by a combination of contracting with the Devine Police Department for the provision of a school resource officer that patrols the Devine ISD campuses during regular school hours, and by approving individuals through the School Guardian Program at each of the Devine ISD Campuses. The board adopted a good cause exception in 2023, but it is recommended that it is adopted annually.

Budgetary Consideration:

This will not affect the budget.

Supporting Documents:

Resolution

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution

Respectfully Submitted by:

Todd Grandjean  
Superintendent