

**Consider Adoption of Board Policy DH (LOCAL)
Employee Standards of Conduct Upon First Reading
August 22, 2023**

SUMMARY:

The 88th Texas Legislative Session included the passage of House Bill 3 (“HB 3”). HB 3 amended Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code, which now requires an armed security officer on each district campus, effective September 1, 2023. Currently, Denton ISD uses School Resource Officers (“SROs”) in all secondary schools and some of the elementary schools. The District has Interlocal Agreements in place with several local municipalities allowing on-duty Police Officers to be placed in schools as SROs. Denton ISD is currently working to grow the number of district armed personnel to meet the state requirements. However, as is happening statewide, there is a shortage of law enforcement personnel along with public education funds to employ them. TASB has revised Board policy CKE (LOCAL) and DH (LOCAL) to allow Denton ISD to develop an alternative standard in accordance with Sections 37.0814(d) and (e) of the Texas Education Code.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

Update 120 is being reviewed in conjunction with Update 121. Both are scheduled for approval at this August 22, 2023 Board meeting upon 2nd reading.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

Emergency action is necessary as House Bill 3 will be in effect on September 1, 2023.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

To allow the Board to ensure that safety and security policies are aligned with Texas Education Code.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

Board Policy BF (LOCAL) allows for emergency policy adoption in one meeting if special circumstances demand an immediate response.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following options are available to the Board:

- continue to study the policy
- modify the existing language
- approve policies as written

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends emergency approval of the DH (LOCAL) policy revision upon first reading as allowed by BF(LOCAL).

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

James K. Wilson III, Superintendent
Jeff Russell, Area Superintendent
Deron Robinson, General Counsel

ATTACHMENT:

DH (LOCAL) Policy Revision