



SECURITY – SAFETY- EDUCATION

CELINA ISD POLICE

SAFETY AND SECURITY THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

How ISD Police Departments Work

- ▶ State Law allows school's in Texas to form their own "Police Agency".
- ▶ ISD Police Departments are completely independent of other agencies and are under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools.
- ▶ They investigate all crimes on school property and may seek assistance of other agencies when appropriate and/or necessary.
- ▶ ISD agencies are accredited by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement "TCOLE" and are accountable only to "TCOLE".
- ▶ Agency Jurisdiction is determined by the School Board. It can cross County and City limits to include the entire School District.

School Benefits-

- ▶ ISD Police officers develop professional relationships with students, parents, and staff on a daily basis. They will recognize and identify issues while they are still “manageable”.
- ▶ ISD Police officers can often re-direct juvenile offenders to resources, and away from the criminal justice system.
- ▶ ISD Police officers have specialized training and work in the best interest of students, their families, and the overall District.
- ▶ ISD Officers work with families to prevent Truancy. The District may realize increased funding through better attendance rates.

Parent's and Students Benefit-

- ▶ Most ISD Police activity is “privacy protected” under Federal Law (FERPA) where most Municipal Police records are “Public Record”.
- ▶ Citations and minor offenses may be channeled through the schools disciplinary program instead of the court system. This gives students more opportunity with scholarships, military placement, or job selection, while still providing appropriate disciplinary action and opportunity for the students personal growth.

The Process – How Do We Get Started?

- ▶ The School Board approves a resolution in open session.
- ▶ A Chief Officer is selected.
- ▶ The Chief compiles policies and documentation for TCOLE. TCOLE will need to see a Police vehicle, office, computer, secure storage area, etc.
- ▶ The information is sent to TCOLE with the appropriate paperwork and a \$1000 (one time) agency fee. TCOLE will visit the District for an inspection when things are in order and issue the “Agency License”.
- ▶ **This process takes about 3 months from the date of the Resolution. It's not difficult but there is much work to do!**

Other Agencies

The benefits are for all!

- ▶ It's important that all agencies work together for safe schools. Both the District and City will benefit from an ISD Police Department.
- ▶ City Departments benefit from reduced call load. Their officers are free to perform enforcement and crime prevention activities elsewhere. City officers are encouraged to work traffic in school zones. Cities receive revenue from this, schools do not.
- ▶ ISD Police will often act as a liaison in off-campus criminal incidents.
- ▶ Schools benefit from increased information on incidents. Schools are not required to report to other Departments and Juvenile information can be kept confidential in many cases. Keep in mind that open dialogue both ways is very important!

Team Building

How Do We All Get Along?

- ▶ Open and honest dialogue between agencies is important! Create a “Team” environment!
- ▶ ISD’s should welcome other local officer’s on campus. Give them building access cards, discount cafeteria meals, access to work out facilities, and use them for paid event security.
- ▶ **Train together often-** host and offer free incident training to all area agencies. When the chips are down, it will be priceless!

Information or Questions-

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