

Troup Independent School District

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Troup ISD Police Department – Fall Semester Board Report 2025

During the Fall Semester, our agency took a proactive and comprehensive approach to strengthening campus safety, emergency preparedness, and district-wide readiness. Our primary focus was ensuring that both staff and students were equipped with the knowledge, tools, and confidence necessary to respond effectively to real-world emergencies. A key component of this work was prevention through training, with an emphasis on educating everyone on the district's Standard Response Protocols. (Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter) We also partner closely with campus administrators to assist with executing a multitude of safety drills across the district.

A major initiative this semester was the continuation of in-depth, hands-on hemorrhage control training (Stop The Bleed) for all district staff and all students in grades 6-12. This training emphasizes immediate life-saving techniques and empowers participants with the skills to act quickly and decisively in critical situations. To further support this effort, we purchased and distributed additional Hemorrhage Control Kits to strategic locations across all campuses, significantly improving emergency medical preparedness district wide.

In addition, we expanded tactical response capabilities by purchasing and distributing breaching tools and ballistic shields to each front office throughout the district. These ensure that first responders and campus guardians are better equipped to manage a wide range of emergency scenarios, enhancing both response time and overall campus security.

Community partnership and prevention education continues to be a priority. On December 4th, I partnered with Maria Villareal of Unbound Now to present an Online and Social Media Safety Seminar for parents and community members. This event, hosted by Troup ISD's School Health Advisory Council (SHAC), strengthened community awareness and reinforced the Troup ISD Police Department's commitment to student safety beyond the classroom.

Each year, our agency participates in Blue Santa – a program put on by the East Texas Fraternal Order of Police that takes nominated children from several area school districts and gives them an opportunity to "Shop with a Cop" for Christmas gifts that they may not have gotten otherwise. I was also able to partner with Smith County Children's Advocacy Center, who donated hundreds of dollars' worth of Christmas gifts to give to several kids within our community. I'd like to give a special shoutout to Kimberly Knighton and Megan McPhail for helping me pick up the vehicle full of gifts, organize them all, and deliver them to our kids on the evening of Monday, December 22nd.

This year, Mrs. Tarrant and Mrs. Whitham, two of our Fourth Grade Teachers at TES, have partnered with me in bringing a special lesson to their classes on Fridays. "Science with Chief" has allowed me to teach these students all about Latent Fingerprint Identification: Everything from fingerprint patterns and their identification, dusting for and lifting latent prints, and identification of individual fingerprint minutiae. The kids have really enjoyed the lessons and hands-on learning, but not nearly as much as I've enjoyed getting to bring it to them.

As in many years previous, I've continued to partner with Mrs. Karyn Ard at Troup High School to help teach some of the lessons in our Forensic Science class. These students learn a more in-depth version of the lessons presented in "Science with Chief", and also learn how to fingerprint another person, develop and lift prints, responding to and documentation of a crime scene, crime scene photography, fingerprint identification and comparison, ballistics, and interview/interrogation techniques in the same format as when I teach an officer trainee the same skills. I also speak to them about general personal safety, online safety, and at the end of the year I offer them a hands-on self-defense class for those that wish to participate.

Throughout the semester, our officers maintained a strong preventive presence, resulting in zero arrests and no cases presented to the Smith County District Attorney's Office. I believe this outcome reflects the effectiveness of relationship-based policing, early intervention, and proactive engagement with students and staff.

Our agency and I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to put in the hard work required to prepare our entire district - not only for the District Vulnerability Assessment that was completed in November, but for the unpredictable realities of real-life emergencies. The collaborative efforts, training initiatives, equipment improvements, campus partnerships, and community outreach established by our agency continue to significantly strengthen the safety posture of Troup ISD.

Respectfully,
Kyndal Brown
Chief of Police
Troup ISD Police Department