
Board of Education

INFORMATION

TITLE: CSSO to FSPS PD Transition: Officer Information

DATE: August 7, 2019

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Doug Brubaker, Ph.D.
Superintendent

VISION 2023 STRATEGY: Strategy 2: Equity, Strategy 4: Learning Environment/Facilities, Strategy 5: Staffing, Strategy 7: Wellness

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

The following are biographies of the three officers who were hired as Certified School Security Officers (CSSOs) and also served as reserve sheriff's deputies for the 2019-2019 school year. These officers will transition organizationally to become the Fort Smith Public Schools Police Department this year. Supervisor of Safety Security Eric Huber and Director of Security and Facilities Bill Hollenbeck will provide leadership for the department.

Officer Brian Beaver

Brian was raised in Hartman Arkansas and graduated from Westside High School in 1986. He joined the Arkansas Army National Guard after graduating from high school. Upon completion of basic training and AIT he enrolled in college at Arkansas Tech University. Brian joined the military in 1986 and retired as a Sergeant Major in 2012. While in the military he was deployed four times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Brian started his law enforcement career with the Fort Smith Police Department in 1995. "I worked as a patrol officer, a community police officer, a school resource officer and the recruiter for the police department. I retired from the police department in 2018 and started working for the Fort Smith Public Schools as a resource officer." Officer Beaver is assigned as the school resource officer for all elementary campuses.

Brian is married to his wife Donna Beaver for 26 years and has two children. His daughter Ashley is a junior at the University of Miami in Florida and his son is a junior at Van Buren High School. This will be Brian's 2nd year with the Fort Smith Public Schools.

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES -1. **Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. 2. **Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. 3. **Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. 4. **Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. 5. **Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. 6. **Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. 7. **Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.

Officer Ray Whitson

Officer Ray Whitson was born and raised in Ozark, AR. He joined the U.S. Army in 1989 and left active duty service in 1995. Whitson then joined the Arkansas Army National Guard where he remained until his retirement in 2001.

Mr. Whitson began his law enforcement career with the Fort Smith Police Department in November of 1995. In 2018, after nearly 23 years, Officer Whitson retired from the Fort Smith Police Department after serving as a Patrol Officer, a member of the Community Oriented Policing Unit (bicycle unit), and as a detective with Fort Smith Narcotic Unit. During SRO Whitson's tenure with the Fort Smith Police Department, he was a member of the S.W.A.T. Team for 17 years. SRO Whitson was also assigned to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) for approximately 3 years as a Task Force Officer.

Mr. Whitson is married to Bonneville Elementary Principal Sharla Whitson. They have two children, Levi and Abby. Mr. Whitson also has one grandson. He is assigned to Chaffin Junior High.

Officer Joe Love

Officer Joe Love has worked in law enforcement for eleven and a half years, with over nine of those as a School Resource Officer. Mr. Love has worked for the Fort Smith and Alma Police Departments. Mr. Love has a bachelor's degree from Arkansas Tech University. He and his wife Elizabeth, who is an employee of the Fort Smith Public Schools, have two children together. Officer Love is assigned to Ramsey Junior High as School Resource Officer.

The Fort Smith Police Department will continue in the ongoing partnership with the Fort Smith Public Schools in providing school resource officers to both Northside and Southside as well as Darby and Kimmons Junior High Schools.

Both Supervisor of Security Eric Huber and Director of Facilities and Security Bill Hollenbeck will continue to provide leadership for our School Police Officers.