



Technology Department

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MEMORANDUM

To:

From:

Subject:

Date:

HISTORY:

RATIONALE:

BUDGET IMPACT:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

Vision: Believe we can succeed, with pride we will achieve.

Mission: The mission of the District is to educate and inspire students in a safe and supportive environment which will result in closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

SECURITY PERSONNEL
SCHOOL MARSHALS

CKEB
(LEGAL)

Note: For general provisions applicable to district security personnel, including school marshals, see CKE.

Board Authority

The board may appoint one or more school marshals for each campus. *Education Code 37.0811(a)*

Definition

A school marshal is a person who is appointed to serve as a school marshal by the board under Education Code 37.0811, is licensed under Occupations Code 1701.260, and has powers and duties described by Code of Criminal Procedure 2.127. *Occupations Code 1701.001(8)*

Eligibility

The board may select for appointment as a school marshal an applicant who is an employee of the district and certified as eligible for appointment under Occupations Code 1701.260. *Education Code 37.0811(b)*

TCOLE Licensing

To be eligible for appointment as a school marshal, an applicant shall:

1. Successfully complete all prerequisite Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) training;
2. Pass the state licensing exam;
3. Be employed and appointed by an authorized school district; and
4. Meet all statutory requirements, including psychological fitness.

37 TAC 227.3(a); Code of Criminal Procedure 2.127(d)

A school marshal training program is open to any employee of a district who holds a license to carry a handgun issued under Government Code Chapter 411, Subchapter H. *37 TAC 227.5(a)*

TCOLE shall license an eligible person who:

1. Completes required training to the satisfaction of TCOLE staff; and
2. Is psychologically fit to carry out the duties of a school marshal as indicated by the results of the psychological examination administered under Occupations Code 1701.260(d).

Occupations Code 1701.260(f)

Psychological
Fitness

In order for an individual to enroll in any school marshal licensing training, obtain a school marshal license, or renew or reapply for a

school marshal license, they must first demonstrate psychological fitness through a psychological examination.

The psychological examination shall be conducted by a professional selected by the district. The professional shall be either a psychologist licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists or a psychiatrist licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The psychologist or psychiatrist must be familiar with the duties of a school marshal.

The examination must be conducted pursuant to professionally recognized standards and methods. The examination process must consist of:

1. A review of the duties and responsibilities of a school marshal as developed by TCOLE;
2. At least two instruments, one which measures personality traits and one which measures psychopathology; and
3. A face-to-face interview conducted after the instruments have been scored.

The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by TCOLE, to be in satisfactory psychological and emotional health to carry out the duties of a school marshal in an emergency shooting or situation involving an active shooter.

If, after examination, the professional declines to declare the individual as psychologically fit, the individual must report the outcome to TCOLE on a form prescribed by TCOLE.

An examination for license renewal or reactivation must be conducted within 90 days of the date of the application for license renewal or reactivation.

37 TAC 227.4

Reimbursement for
Training

The board may, but shall not be required to, reimburse the amount paid by the applicant to participate in the training program under Occupations Code 1701.260. *Education Code 37.0811(b)*

District Responsibilities

A district shall:

1. Submit and receive approval for an application to appoint a person as a school marshal;
2. Upon authorization, notify TCOLE using approved format prior to appointment;

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3. Report to TCOLE, within seven days, when a person previously authorized to act as a school marshal is no longer employed with the district;
4. Report to TCOLE, within seven days, when a person previously authorized to act as a school marshal is no longer authorized to do so by the district, TCOLE standards, another state agency, or under other law;
5. Immediately report to TCOLE a school marshal's violation of any TCOLE standard, including the discharge of a firearm carried under the authorization of these provisions outside of a training environment; and
6. Immediately report to TCOLE any indication, suspicion, or allegation that a school marshal is no longer psychologically fit to carry out the duties of a school marshal.

For five years, the district must retain documentation that the district has met all requirements under law in a format readily accessible to TCOLE. This requirement does not relieve a district from retaining all other relevant records not otherwise listed.

37 TAC 227.1

Powers and Duties

A school marshal may make arrests and exercise all authority given to peace officers under the Code of Criminal Procedure, subject to written regulations adopted by the board.

A school marshal may only act as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens serious bodily injury or death of students, faculty, or visitors on school premises.

A school marshal may not issue a traffic citation for a violation of the Transportation Code.

Code of Criminal Procedure 2.127

Reporting
Requirements

Once appointed, a school marshal shall:

1. Immediately report to TCOLE and the district any circumstance which would render them unauthorized to act as a school marshal by virtue of their employment with the district, failure to meet the standards of TCOLE, another state agency, or under law;
2. Immediately report to TCOLE any violation of applicable TCOLE standards, including any discharge of a firearm carried under the authorization of these provisions outside of training environment; and

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3. Comply with all requirements under law, including Education Code 37.0811.

37 TAC 227.3(b)

Fit for Duty Review

When TCOLE receives a report or other reliable information that a school marshal may no longer be psychologically fit to carry out the duties of a school marshal, TCOLE may:

1. Issue an emergency suspension order; or
2. Require a fit for duty review upon identifying factors that indicate the licensee may no longer be able to perform the duties of a school marshal safely and effectively.

TCOLE shall provide written notice of the psychological examination to the license holder not later than the 10th business day before the deadline to submit to the examination. Written notice shall include the reasons for the examination.

The examination shall be conducted by a psychiatrist or psychologist chosen by the licensee.

To facilitate the examination of any licensee, TCOLE will provide all appropriate documents and available information.

The examining practitioner will provide TCOLE with a report indicating whether the school marshal is fit for duty. If the school marshal is unfit for duty, the practitioner will include the reasons or an explanation why the individual is unfit for duty.

A second examination may be ordered by TCOLE if it questions the practitioner's report. The examination will be conducted by a psychiatrist or psychologist appointed by TCOLE. If the report of the appointed practitioner disagrees with the report of the initial practitioner, the final determination as to the school marshal's fitness shall be decided by the executive director of TCOLE.

A school marshal who fails a psychological examination shall have their license suspended until the executive director orders it reinstated.

Any school marshal ordered to undergo a fit for duty review shall comply with the terms of the order and cooperate fully with the examining practitioner.

34 TAC 227.6

**Handgun
Possession**

A school marshal may carry a concealed handgun or possess a handgun on the physical premises of a school, but only:

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1. In the manner provided by written regulations adopted by the board; and
2. At a specific school as specified by the board.

Accessing Handgun A school marshal may use a handgun the school marshal is authorized to carry or possess only under circumstances that would justify the use of deadly force under Penal Code 9.32 or 9.33.

Board Regulations A board's written regulations must provide that a school marshal may carry a concealed handgun on the school marshal's person or possess the handgun on the physical premises of a school in a locked and secured safe or other locked and secured location.

The written regulations must also require that a handgun carried or possessed by a school marshal may be loaded only with frangible duty ammunition approved for that purpose by TCOLE.

Inactive Status A district employee's status as a school marshal becomes inactive on:

1. Expiration of the employee's school marshal license under Occupations Code 1701.260;
2. Suspension or revocation of the employee's license to carry a handgun;
3. Termination of the employee's employment with the district; or
4. Notice from the board that the employee's services as school marshal are no longer required.

Education Code 37.0811(c)-(f)

Identity Confidential The identity of a school marshal is confidential and is not subject to a request under the Public Information Act, except that the person's name, date of birth, and handgun license number, and the address of the person's place of employment must be provided by TCOLE to:

1. The director of the Department of Public Safety;
2. The district;
3. The chief law enforcement officer of the local municipal law enforcement agency if the person is employed at a campus of a district located within a municipality;
4. The sheriff of the county if the person is employed at a campus of a district that is not located within a municipality; and

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5. The chief administrator of any school district-commissioned peace officer, if the person is employed at a district that has commissioned peace officers.

If a parent or guardian of a student enrolled at a school inquires in writing, the district shall provide the parent or guardian written notice indicating whether any employee of the school is currently appointed as a school marshal. The notice may not disclose information that is confidential.

Education Code 37.0811(g), (h); Occupations Code 1701.260(j)

No State Benefits

A school marshal is not entitled to state benefits normally provided by the state to a peace officer. *Code of Criminal Procedure 2.127(c)*

Memorandum of Understanding to Share Marshal

A district may enter into a memorandum of understanding with another district, open-enrollment charter school, or private school under which a school marshal appointed to a campus of the district may temporarily act as a school marshal at a campus of the other school for the duration of an event occurring at the campus of the other school at which both schools are participating. The memorandum of understanding must comply with the requirements for written regulations under Education Code 37.0811 [see Handgun Possession, above] and may be used to satisfy the requirement for written regulations or written authorization under Penal Code 46.03(a)(1) to allow that school marshal to carry a firearm on the premises of the school at which the event occurs. *Education Code 37.08131*

SECURITY PERSONNEL
OTHER SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

CKED
(LEGAL)

Note: For general provisions applicable to district security personnel, including district peace officers, see CKE.

“Commissioned security officer” is a security officer under Occupations Code Chapter 1702 authorized by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to carry a firearm and operating in compliance with 37 Administrative Code Chapter 35, Subchapter F.

**Security Services
Contractor**

For the purposes of providing security personnel, the board may contract with a licensed security services contractor for the provision of a commissioned security officer who has completed the Level II or III training course required by DPS.

Education Code 37.081; Occupations Code 1702.002; 37 TAC 35.81-.83

**Employed by the
District**

A district may not employ a commissioned security officer unless it provides notice to DPS in the form prescribed by the Public Safety Commission of:

1. The district’s intent to employ a commissioned security officer and register with DPS;
2. The name, title, and contact information of the person serving in the district as the contact for DPS; and
3. Any change in the information provided above.

Occupations Code 1702.181

The provisions of Occupations Code Chapter 1702 relating to security officer commissions apply to a person employed by a district whose duties include serving as a security guard, security watchman, or security patrolman on property owned or operated by the district if the board files a written request with DPS to issue a commission to the district’s employees with those duties.

The commission expires at the time the officer’s employment as a security officer by the district is terminated.

Occupations Code 1702.321

PROPOSED REVISIONS

(see pages 4-6)

School Resource Officers	To implement the District's comprehensive safety programs, the District has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with each local law enforcement agency that provides the District with school resource officers. School resource officers shall provide services consistent with the terms of the agreement, the comprehensive safety programs, and Board policy.
Jurisdiction	The jurisdiction of school resource officers shall include all territory within District boundaries, as well as all real and personal property outside the boundaries of the District that is owned, leased, or rented by the District, or is otherwise under the District's control.
Authority and Duties	<p>A school resource officer shall perform duties as described in the MOU and as included in the District improvement plan and the Student Code of Conduct. Pursuant to the MOU, a school resource officer shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Protect the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the District and protect the property of the District.2. Enforce all laws, including municipal ordinances, county ordinances, and state laws, and investigate violations of law as needed. In doing so, school resource officers may serve search warrants in connection with District-related investigations in compliance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.3. Arrest suspects consistent with state and federal statutory and constitutional standards governing arrests, including arrests without warrant, for offenses that occur in the officer's presence or under the other rules set out in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.4. Coordinate and cooperate with commissioned officers of all other law enforcement agencies in the enforcement of this policy as necessary.5. Enforce District policies, rules, and regulations on District property, in school zones, at bus stops, or at District functions.6. Investigate violations of District policy, rules, and regulations as requested by the Superintendent and participate in hearings concerning alleged violations.7. Carry a firearm in accordance with the MOU and the directives with the commissioning entity.

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8. Carry out all other duties in accordance with the MOU.

A school resource officer shall not be assigned routine classroom discipline or administrative tasks. Each school resource officer shall receive at least the minimum amount of education and training required by law.

[See CKE(LEGAL) and CKEC(LEGAL)]

**Security Officers
Authorized to
Possess Firearms**

To assist with implementing the District's comprehensive safety programs, the District shall employ security officers as defined by Occupations Code Chapter 1702. To be authorized to carry a firearm, a security officer shall have completed the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Level III training course in order to be commissioned. The District shall comply with DPS rules for the employment of commissioned security officers. Security officers shall be accountable to and shall report to the Superintendent.

Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of security officers shall include all territory within District boundaries, as well as all real and personal property outside the boundaries of the District that is owned, leased, or rented by the District, or is otherwise under the District's control.

Authorization

Pursuant to its authority under state law, the Board shall authorize security officers to possess certain firearms in schools, at Board meetings, and at school-sponsored or school-related events on District property, to the extent allowed by law. Each authorized security officer shall have immunities as provided by law.

Each specifically authorized security officer shall be approved by action of the Board. The Superintendent shall issue written authorization to each approved security officer. The written authorization shall specify the District premises and other property where the security officer is authorized to carry a firearm, as well as the means of carrying and storing the firearm.

Revocation

The Superintendent, as well as the Board, shall have the authority to revoke at any time a security officer's authorization to possess a firearm under this policy.

In addition, authorization for a security officer to possess a firearm under this policy shall be automatically revoked if the employee is placed on administrative leave or separates from employment with the District, regardless of the reason.

Duties

An authorized security officer shall not perform routine law enforcement duties unless the duty is performed in response to an emergency that poses a threat of death or serious bodily injury to a student, employee, or other individual on a District campus.

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In addition to complying with the relevant DPS regulations, a security officer shall:

1. Act as necessary to protect the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the District;
2. Maintain school security by patrolling campus hallways, completing door checks, and monitoring the perimeter of the campus throughout the day;
3. Routinely check exterior doors and interior classroom doors to ensure they are locked;
4. Complete weekly exterior door audits;
5. Inform campus administrators of malfunctioning cameras, doors, locks, gates, windows, etc., that require the submission of a work order for repair;
6. Assist with campus safety drills (i.e., fire, hold, secure, lock-down, evacuate, shelter);
7. Assist and coordinate with law enforcement personnel as needed;
8. Notify the police, fire department, emergency responders, or other appropriate authority of any situation requiring immediate attention; and
9. Perform other tasks and carry out all other lawful duties as directed by the Superintendent.

Handgun Licensees Each security officer shall be required to maintain a current license to carry a handgun in accordance with state law.

Training In addition to the training required by law and applicable DPS rules, each security officer assigned to a campus shall receive training in the following:

1. Student mental health, including suicide awareness;
2. Trauma-informed care;
3. Age-appropriate responses;
4. Child abuse identification and reporting;
5. Bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and dating violence;
6. Special accommodations for students with disabilities (including behavior de-escalation techniques);
7. Confidentiality; and

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8. Board policies and District regulations.

Permitted Weapons
and Ammunition

Only District-approved firearms and ammunition shall be authorized for possession and use under this policy and the District's emergency operations procedures.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall ensure that procedures to implement this safety and security program are detailed in the District's emergency operations plan.

School Marshals

Authorization

Pursuant to its authority under state law, the Board may appoint an employee of the District to serve as a school marshal if the employee is certified as eligible by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). A school marshal shall be authorized to possess certain firearms in schools, at Board meetings, and at school-sponsored or school-related events on District property, to the extent allowed by law. Each school marshal shall have immunities as provided by law.

Each specifically authorized school marshal shall be approved by action of the Board. The Superintendent shall issue written authorization to each approved employee. The written authorization shall specify the District premises and other property where the employee is authorized to carry a firearm, as well as the means of carrying and storing the firearm.

Serving as a school marshal shall be strictly voluntary.

Revocation

The Superintendent, as well as the Board, shall have the authority to revoke at any time a school marshal's authorization to possess a firearm under this policy.

In addition, authorization for a school marshal to possess a firearm under this policy shall be automatically revoked if the employee is no longer authorized by law to serve as a school marshal or is placed on administrative leave or separates from employment with the District, regardless of the reason.

Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of school marshals shall include all territory within District boundaries, as well as all real and personal property outside the boundaries of the District that is owned, leased, or rented by the District, or is otherwise under the District's control.

Authority and Duty

Subject to limitations in law, a school marshal shall:

1. Act as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that poses a threat of death or serious bodily injury to a person in the jurisdiction of the District;

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2. Make arrests and exercise all authority given peace officers as necessary to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that poses a threat of death or serious bodily injury to a person in the jurisdiction of the District;
3. Coordinate and cooperate with commissioned officers of all other law enforcement agencies in the enforcement of this policy as necessary; and
4. Carry out all other lawful duties as directed by the Superintendent.

Training

The District shall provide to each school marshal who is authorized to possess a firearm on District property specialized training in crisis intervention, management of hostage situations, and other topics the Board may determine necessary or appropriate.

Permitted Weapons and Ammunition

Only District-approved firearms and ammunition shall be authorized for possession and use under this policy and the District's emergency operations procedures.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall ensure that procedures to implement this safety and security program are detailed in the District's emergency operations plan.

[See CKE(LEGAL) and CKEB(LEGAL)]

Employees Authorized to Possess Firearms for Emergency Response

Purpose

The Board has adopted these provisions regarding firearms to address concerns about effective and timely response to emergency situations on District property, including invasion of a school by an armed outsider; a hostage situation; actions of a student or employee who is armed and poses a direct threat of physical harm to himself, herself, or others; and similar circumstances.

Authorization

Pursuant to its authority under state law, the Board may authorize specific District employees to possess certain firearms in schools, at Board meetings, and at school-sponsored or school-related events on District property, to the extent allowed by law. Each authorized employee shall have immunities as provided by law.

Each specifically authorized employee shall be approved by action of the Board. The Superintendent shall issue written authorization to each approved employee. The written authorization shall specify the District premises and other property where the employee is authorized to carry a firearm, as well as the means of carrying and storing the firearm.

Participation in this safety and security program shall be strictly voluntary.

SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT
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<u>Revocation</u>	<p><u>The Superintendent, as well as the Board, shall have the authority to revoke at any time a specific employee's authorization to possess a firearm under this policy.</u></p> <p><u>In addition, authorization for a specific employee to possess a firearm under this policy shall be automatically revoked if the employee is placed on administrative leave or separates from employment with the District, regardless of the reason.</u></p>
<u>Duties</u>	<p><u>An authorized employee shall not perform routine law enforcement duties unless the duty is performed in response to an emergency that poses a threat of death or serious bodily injury to a student, employee, or other individual on a District campus.</u></p> <p><u>In an emergency an authorized employee shall:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><u>1. Act as necessary to protect the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the District; and</u><u>2. Carry out all other lawful duties as directed by the Superintendent.</u>
<u>Handgun Licensees</u>	<p><u>Only a District employee who maintains a current license to carry a handgun in accordance with state law shall be eligible for authorization to possess a firearm on District property under this policy and in accordance with the District's emergency operations plan.</u></p> <p><u>A District employee who is a handgun license holder but who has not been specifically authorized by Board action under this policy shall not be permitted to possess a firearm on school property except in accordance with the limited provisions of DH(LOCAL).</u></p>
<u>Training</u>	<p><u>The District shall provide to each District employee who is authorized to possess a firearm on District property specialized training in crisis intervention, management of hostage situations, and other topics the Board may determine necessary or appropriate.</u></p>
<u>Permitted Weapons and Ammunition</u>	<p><u>Only District-approved firearms and ammunition shall be authorized for possession and use under this policy and the District's emergency operations procedures.</u></p>
<u>Implementation</u>	<p><u>The Superintendent shall ensure that procedures to implement this safety and security program are detailed in the District's emergency operations plan.</u></p>