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## 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 jurisdictional boundaries, as well as all real and personal property within those jurisdictional boundaries that is owned, leased, or rented by the District, or is otherwise under the District's control.

#### **Authority and Duties**

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:

- 1. Protect the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the District and protect the property of the District.
- 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.
- 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.
- 8. Carry out all other duties in accordance with the MOU.

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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)]

## Contracted Security Officers

To assist with implementing the District's comprehensive safety programs, the District has entered into an agreement with a security services contractor for security officers in accordance with law. Contracted security officers shall provide services consistent with the terms of the agreement, the comprehensive safety programs, and Board policy.

Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of contracted 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 may authorize contracted 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 contracted security officer shall have immunities as provided by law.

Each specifically authorized contracted security officer shall be approved by action of the Board. The Superintendent shall issue written authorization to each approved officer. The written authorization shall specify the District premises and other property where the contracted 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 specific contracted security officer's authorization to possess a firearm on District property under this policy.

In addition, authorization for a specific contracted security officer to possess a firearm on District property under this policy shall be automatically revoked if the agreement with the security services contractor expires or is severed.

**Duties** 

A contracted 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 the scope of their services as contracted security personnel, each security officer shall:

- 1. Protect the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the District and protect the property of the District.
- 2. Carry out all other duties in accordance with the agreement.

### **Training**

The District shall ensure that each contracted security officer receives specialized training in crisis intervention, management of hostage situations, and other topics the Board may determine necessary or appropriate.

In addition, each contracted security officer 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
- 8. Board policies and District regulations.

### 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 coordinator of student and staff safety.

#### 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

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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.

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;
- 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, lockdown, 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

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9. Perform other tasks and carry out all other lawful duties as directed by the coordinator of student and staff safety.

### 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
- 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.

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