

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Special - School Safety - May 2019
Title	REVISED POLICY - SPECIAL - SCHOOL SAFETY - SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS
Code	po8407PL
Status	DRAFT
Adopted	September 11, 2018

REVISED POLICY - SPECIAL - SCHOOL SAFETY

8407 - SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS

For the protection and safety of students, school personnel, visitors, and property, the District shall partner with ☒ local law enforcement agencies ~~security agencies~~ to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school in the District, including charter schools.

Further, the Board will collaborate with charter school governing boards located in the District to facilitate access to all safe-school officer options available pursuant to Florida law.

[SELECT ONE OR MORE OF THE OPTIONS BELOW]

☒ School Resource Officers

The School Board will enter into cooperative agreements with law enforcement agencies for the provision of school resource officers. School resource officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1) and employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in F.S. 943.10(4). School resource officers shall:

- A. undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation;
- B. abide by Board policies and consult with and coordinate activities through school principals; and
- C. complete mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a national organization with expertise in mental health crisis intervention. Such training must be designed to improve school resource officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.

With respect to matters relating to employment, school resource officers shall be responsible to their law enforcement agency, subject to agreements between the Board and law enforcement agency. Activities conducted by school resource officers which are part of the regular instructional program of schools shall be under the direction of school principals.

The powers and duties of law enforcement officers shall continue throughout school resource officers' tenure.

[END SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS OPTION]

☒ Commissioned School Safety Officers

The Superintendent shall recommend, and the School Board may appoint, one (1) or more school safety officers. School safety officers must be certified law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1), certified under the provisions of F.S. Chapter 943, and employed by either a law enforcement agency or the Board. School safety officers must undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation.

School safety officers have and shall exercise the power to make arrests for violations of law on Board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. School safety officers have authority to carry weapons when performing their official duties.

The Board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided in F.S. Chapter 23.

A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the Board and law enforcement agency.

[END OF COMMISSIONED SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS OPTION]

~~[] School Guardians (The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program)~~

~~The School Board may utilize school guardians pursuant to The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program. The Superintendent shall be responsible for appointing school guardians. Prior to appointing school guardians, [OPTION ONE] [] the Superintendent must provide the Board with evidence from the _____ Sheriff demonstrating that potential school guardians have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. [END OPTION ONE] [OPTION TWO] [] the Superintendent must verify through evidence provided by the _____ Sheriff that potential school guardians have met all the requirements set forth in F.S. 30.15. [END OPTION TWO]~~

~~School guardians do not have the power of arrest or the authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant incident on a District school premises. In support of school sanctioned activities for purposes of F.S. 790.115, the following individuals may serve as a school guardian:~~

- ~~A. a District employee or personnel as defined under F.S. 1002.01 who volunteers to serve as a school guardian in addition to his/her official job duties; or~~
- ~~B. a District employee who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian.~~

~~Individuals who exclusively perform classroom duties as classroom teachers as defined in F.S. 1012.01(2)(a) are prohibited from serving as school guardians, unless such individuals are classroom teachers of a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program, current service members as defined in F.S. 250.01, or current or former law enforcement officers as defined in F.S. 943.10(1), (6), or (8).~~

[END OF SCHOOL GUARDIANS OPTION]

~~[] School Security Guards~~

~~Pursuant to F.S. 1006.12, the Board contracts with one (1) or more security agencies to provide appropriately licensed and trained security guards. All contracts with security agencies, among other things, define the entity or entities responsible for training and the responsibilities for maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and firearm qualification.~~

~~All security guards serving in the capacity of a safe school officer pursuant to this policy and Florida law are in support of school sanctioned activities for purposes of F.S. 790.115 and must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises.~~

[END OF SCHOOL SECURITY GUARDS OPTION]

Notification of Incidents Involving Safe-School Officer Discipline and Firearm Discharge

The Superintendent is responsible for notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency _____ County Sheriff immediately after, but no later than seventy-two (72) hours after, the occurrence of the following:

- A. a Safe-School Officer is dismissed for misconduct or disciplined; and
- B. a Safe-School Officer discharges his/her firearm in the exercise of his/her duties other than for training purposes.

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Legal F.S. 30.15
 F.S. 1006.12