



It has been said that our schools are the most valuable structures in our communities because they possess the most priceless treasures of our society. They should receive the protection they deserve. School safety should rise to the level of the value we place on our children. We are fortunate to have a School Resource Officer (SRO) serve the Fairview School District.

According to the National Association of School Resource Officers, the presence of school resource officers in schools has become an important part of the duty to protect children on campus. Statistically speaking, the effectiveness of school resource officers is firmly established. In America, school crime is down, incidences of school-associated deaths; violence, nonfatal victimization, and theft have all diminished since local police began partnering with school officials. Once schools are made safe, the campuses tend to stay safe. Even juvenile arrests decrease, falling nearly 50% during the period of expansion of School Resource officer programs. Speaking as a practical matter, the presence of local police on campus is essential. The specialized knowledge of the law, local and national crime trends and safety threats, people and places in the community, and the local juvenile-justice system combine to make police critical members of schools' policy-making teams when it comes to environmental safety planning and facilities management, school-safety, and emergency response preparedness. In order to fully realize the benefits of the presence of local police, the officers must be trained properly. Officers' law-enforcement knowledge and skill combined with specialized SRO training for their duties in the educational setting. SRO's, as a result, possess a skill set unique among both law enforcement and education personnel that enables SRO's to protect the community and the campus while supporting the educational mission. The middle school will utilize the expertise of a resource officer in many ways, including:

1. The S.R.O. will provide services to all three Fairview schools, the campus and the areas adjacent to the campus. He will investigate allegations of criminal incidents per police department policies and procedures. Enforce state and local laws and ordinances. In conjunction with administration, he or she could make appropriate referrals to juvenile authorities or other governmental agencies.
2. Our S.R.O. will work to prevent juvenile delinquency through close contact and positive relationships with students. In addition, the S.R.O. will develop crime prevention programs and conduct security inspections to deter criminal or delinquent activities. The S.R.O. has the ability to monitor crime statistics and work with local patrol officers and students together to design crime prevention strategies.



3. He can establish and maintain a close partnership with all school administrators in order to provide for a safe school environment. Assisting administrative efforts to enforce Board policies and procedures could certainly prove to be a great service to all stakeholders. The officers can help ensure school administrators safety by being present during school searches, which may involve weapons, controlled dangerous substances, or in such cases that, the student's emotional state may present a risk to the administrator. He will be able to assist administration in emergency crisis planning and building security matters. We would rely on the S.R.O. to train school personnel in handling crisis situations, which may arise at the school.

4. The S.R.O. will be visible within the school community, attend and participate in school functions and build relationships with the school's staff, as well as with students and parents.

5. The S.R.O. will work closely with teachers in designing and presenting law-related topics and the role of police in our society. He can also work with guidance counselors and other student support staff to assist students and to provide services to students involved in situations where referrals to service agencies are necessary.



The addition of security camera and games have provided a meaningful and needed level of safety, but the value of these measures are only realized by the human element afforded by a School Resource Officer. The S.R.O. completes the network of safety structures recently implemented to protect our students. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the School Resource Office, please contact [Steven Ferringer](#), principal.