Stafford Township Board of Education Policy

7446 SCHOOL SECURITY PROGRAM

The safety of students, staff members, and visitors on school grounds is an important concern for the Board of Education.

The Board of Education authorizes the employment of school district security officers. The district's security officers will be required to wear Board-approved uniforms and shall work in cooperation with the school administration to provide security services on school grounds. The security officers will be provided the necessary equipment to perform the security functions assigned by the administration. The Superintendent of Schools may recommend for Board approval a school security officer who was a law enforcement officer who retired in good standing and has a valid permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4, and a permit to possess a handgun in a school building or on school grounds during his/her workday provided the employee meets the exception to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5 outlined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l).

In order for a school security officer to be authorized to carry a handgun in a school building or on school grounds, the school security officer must provide the Superintendent of Schools with documentation supporting compliance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l), including, but not limited to, a copy of an identification card issued by the Superintendent of the State Police permitting the retired officer to carry a handgun in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l)(4). The identification card shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance, valid through the State, not transferable to any other person, and shall be carried at all times on the person of the retired law enforcement officer while the officer is carrying a handgun. The retired law enforcement officer shall produce the identification card for review on the demand of any law enforcement officer or authority.

The Superintendent of Schools will contact the Superintendent of the State Police to confirm the issuance of the identification card permitting the retired officer to carry a handgun in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l)(4). The Superintendent of Schools will also submit the identification card to the school district's insurance company to ensure the Board of Education has the appropriate insurance for a school security officer to carry a handgun in accordance with this Policy. The school security officer's authorization to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds will be dependent upon receipt of written confirmation from the school district's insurance company that sufficient insurance coverage, as determined by the Board, will be provided to the school district and school employees should any liability arise from the school security officer's handgun. The inability to obtain sufficient insurance coverage may independently form the basis for denial of a school security officer's authorization to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds.

The appointment and authorization for a school security officer to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds must be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. Any authorization will only be for the time period the New Jersey State Police issued identification card is valid and under no circumstances will the authorization exceed one year. The

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Superintendent of Schools, if recommending a school Security officer be authorized to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds, will provide the Board of Education with a copy of all the information submitted by the school security officer in support of the application, any documentation from law enforcement agencies, and information from the district's insurance company. The Board of Education may approve the Superintendent's recommendation after review of the documentation, and upon such approval, the Superintendent of Schools will provide written authorization to the school security officer along with any conditions on the authority to carry a handgun in school buildings or on school grounds. The Superintendent of Schools or designee will inform local law enforcement officials of any school district security officer(s) authorized to carry a handgun in school buildings or on school grounds. A school security officer authorized to carry a handgun is not authorized to carry a handgun in school buildings or on school grounds beyond the hours of the officer's workday or work assignment.

A school security officer approved and authorized by the Board of Education to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds must comply with all applicable New Jersey laws, including but not limited to: N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6; and N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4.

This Policy will be reviewed and approved by the Board attorney for compliance with applicable statutes and administrative code provisions before initial adoption and subsequent re-adoptions by the Board.

N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; 2C:39-5; 2C:39-6; 2C:58-4;
40A:14-146.10; 40A:14-146.11;
40A:14-146.14

Adopted: 11 May 2017